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Furman

Fall 2004

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Printed on partially recycled paper

ON THE COVER:

A detail from the new-look James B. Duke Library.
Photo by Charlie Register



MEET THE Millennials

An examination of the influences and attitudes
that have shaped today's college students.

BY ROGER CASEY

They're smart, high-achieving and confident. They're used to immediate gratification. They're tolerant. They value teamwork and pursue the approval of their elders.

They're worldly — often wise beyond their years. At the same time they've lived sheltered, heavily regimented lives, overseen every step of the way by their "helicopter parents."

They're today's college students.

Call them the Millennials. They've also been referred to as the Echo Boomers and Generation Y, but they seem to prefer Millennials.

When the CBS newsmagazine "60 Minutes" did an in-depth story about the Millennials in October, they were described as a group in which "rules seem to have replaced rebellion, convention is winning out over individualism, and values are very traditional."

Why? What's different about today's young people? What distinguishes them from those that have come before?

On the following pages, Roger Casey, a 1983 Furman graduate who serves as dean of the faculty at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., delves into the influences and attitudes that have defined the lives — and shaped the futures — of tomorrow's leaders.





An interesting generational confluence fills the halls between classes at America's colleges and universities these days. An aging, predominantly Baby Boom professoriate now finds their former Generation X students finishing Ph.D.s and returning to college as faculty.

Occupying the current student role are the so-called Millennials — or Generation Y, to some. The first Millennial cohort entered college four years ago after graduating as the high school class of 2000 (hence the name). Now that Millennials dominate college student bodies, Boomers and X-ers are taking notice. Perhaps these collegians will become "The Next Great Generation," as Neil Howe and William Strauss subtitle *Millennials Rising*, their best-selling text on the children of the late Baby Boomers.

How do Millennials differ from their elders? Here's one example. Remember learning to ride a bicycle? For me, growing up in South Carolina in the 1960s, it was a red, pawn-shop special with pedal brakes. Dad ran behind with one hand on the plastic banana seat, letting go without my knowledge at some point. Of course, I fell and skinned my knee. "Get back on," he encouraged.

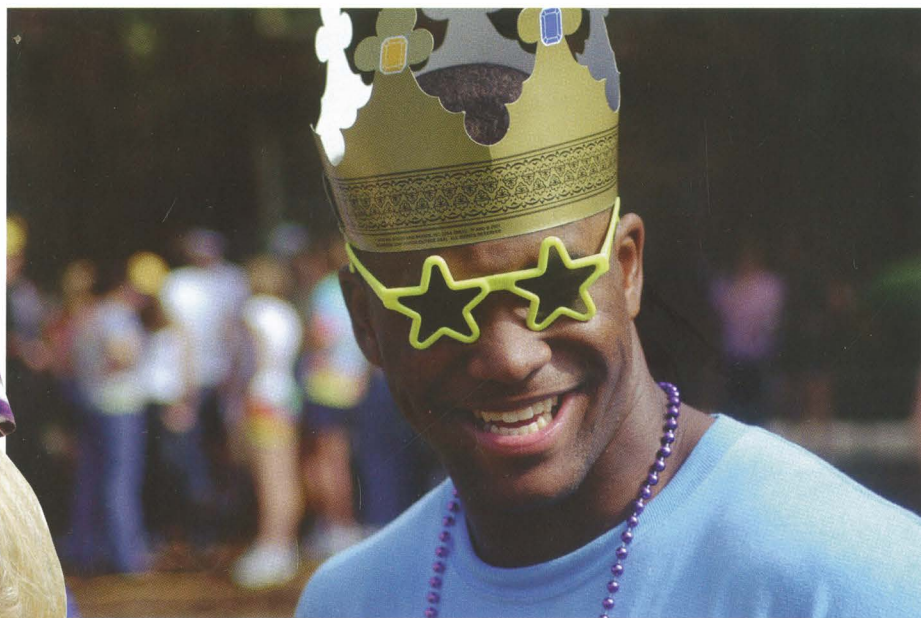
Contrast that scene with the education of a Millennial. First, there is the bike itself: a European or Japanese import that costs a little less than did the '72 Malibu I bought as a freshman at Furman. Next, Mom and Dad have probably read *Teaching Your Child to Bicycle Safely* — or at least watched the DVD. Perhaps they've sent Junior to bike safety school or hired a training consultant.

On the appointed morning of initiation, Mom, Dad and little Millennial set off for the park, bike nestled on the roof rack of the SUV. The entire event is being recorded by video camera. Before mounting the bike, little Millie is encased in a suit of plastic armor: helmet, knee pads, shoulder pads, chin strap, gloves. Yet, like all of us, she falls. She cries because her arm hurts, so she gets a visit to the hospital for an MRI because no one wants to ruin her chances of being a violinist

can "see": "Have you seen Justin Timberlake's latest song?" Phones have always been something you don't really "dial." And a television with 13 channels? Please — that's so 20th century!

While no generation can be defined with monolithic characteristics, several key themes dictate the overwhelming majority of Millennial childhoods.

■ Millennials have been protected and warned of external dangers at every crossroads, whether we're talking about bicycle safety equipment, CD ratings, the V-chip, child molestation, date rape, the Amber Alert, or sunblock with an SPF of 45. Yet, the Millennials have arguably grown up faster than any of their predecessors. They've been sexualized from an early age through media images of Britney, Internet sites, Abercrombie and Fitch (which sells thongs for teens



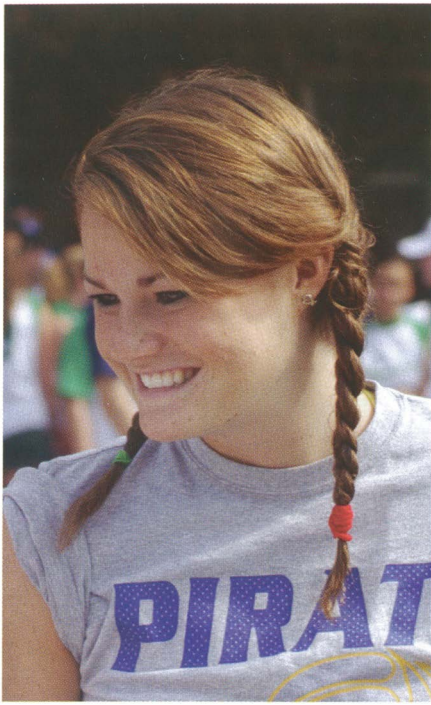
(lessons at 6) or a softball pitcher (practice at 3).

As my story illustrates, Millennials are the most protected, structured, watched-after, achievement-driven generation in American history. They are, as one Millennial parent actually said to me, "our little investment."

Born in 1982 and after, their formative years saw seemingly unbridled economic prosperity. They have never known a world without computers as a household appliance. Information has always been a click away (a double-click for really hard-to-find things). The latest music has always been something you

emblazoned with the phrase "eye candy"), and Congress investigating one president's sexual misadventures while his opponent sells Viagra on television.

■ Millennials are sedentary and/or sedated. Though this is a generation obsessed by X-Treme sports, most live the extreme vicariously through the Internet or video games. Teen obesity is rampant. Couch potatoes have been replaced by "surfers" who ride the virtual wavelength in front of a computer screen. The children of those who lived through the drug culture of the 1960s have a pharmaceutical culture of their own — but this one is prescription-based. Those



coping with attention-deficit disorders may have been on Ritalin for years. Many are on anti-depressants. In fact, what used to be called “adolescence” may now be called “depression,” and numerous Millennials seek medical relief from its pressures.

■ Millennials are heavily pressured by “branding.” Their world is bombarded with advertising texts and messages. Brand consciousness is enormous. Pepsi and Coke vie for exclusive contracts in certain school districts. Marketers pay to have brands like Nike or Gatorade mentioned in textbooks (from an algebra text: “How many pints of Gatorade does it take . . .”). Millions are spent to convince this generation to use its considerable disposable income on certain products or to look a certain way. Many eating disorders emanate from such cultural programming to look perfect.

■ Millennials’ lives have been hyper-structured and programmed. They go from school to soccer practice to violin lessons to Boy Scouts to the church choir, then return home to volumes of homework emanating from back-to-basics or testing-based curricula. The enormous backpacks teens carry to school make them look more like astronauts preparing for space travel than kids. Millennials were tested at age 3 to get into the best kindergarten so they could get into the best grammar school programs that led to the best high schools that lead to the best colleges. By the time many actually reach college, they are burned out or have little ability to organize their own lives in the relatively

structure-free world they discover in college, where no one else takes responsibility for their time. But even in college, many continue with lifestyles that leave little room for reflective space. Try scheduling a meeting with a group of college students and watch them pull out their Palm Pilots and struggle to find a common free moment.

■ Millennials are tech-savvy and gadget-rich. For them, the Mouse does not refer to Disney. Information is instantaneous — just a click away. PCs, Palm Pilots, digital phones, Googling, MP-3s, Wi-fi, e-mail — they are “connected.” Remarkably, some college students e-mail or cell-phone their parents four or five times a day. I remember wanting my parents to set my things out of the station wagon on move-in day at Furman, drive away quickly, and not return until graduation. Which brings us to . . .

■ Millennials love their parents. Good news for Mom and Dad. Bad news for independence. Some sociologists have suggested that Baby Boomers are reliving their teen and college years vicariously through their children. Parents thus have become much more involved with their childrens’ college educations. Most X-ers and Boomers couldn’t imagine their parents calling a professor or dean, yet such behavior is the norm for the Millennial parent. As an example, almost every phone call the office of the dean at Rollins College received last summer regarding fall course scheduling for first-year students came from parents, not students

themselves. I’m amused when parents use the possessive “our” to refer to a student’s schedule, as in “We received our materials about fall term. . . .”

Again, these descriptions are not meant to stereotype but rather to provide a sense of how today’s college student differs from her predecessors. Indeed, she is more likely to be a she. Women are becoming the significant majority of college students. And this she is more likely to be non-white. The percentage of Millennials who are Asian or Hispanic is significantly higher than for the last generation.

Understanding the Millennial generation is key to educating them. Colleges must expend considerable effort to create a technologically rich yet personally focused learning environment conducive to the needs of this next great generation. With their orientation toward achievement and the support of their elders, the Millennials have a tremendous future ahead. Our job as educators is to prepare them for it. In our post 9/11 world, never has the breadth and focus of a liberal arts education been so in need. ●

The author earned his Ph.D. from Florida State University. This article appeared in its original form in the Spring 2004 issue of the Rollins Alumni Record and is reprinted with permission.

Photos by Charlie Register except as noted.



Extreme Makeover



The James B. Duke Library boasts a stunning new look — and new capabilities.

The library of the future is open for business at Furman.

Unveiled this fall in all of its revamped and renovated glory, the James B. Duke Library boasts a spectacular new look, with almost double its former capacity and triple the amount of research and study space available to students and faculty. The facility's new wireless network enables users to work anywhere in the building from a laptop computer, with access to more than 100 databases and thousands of journals and e-books through the library's Web site. In addition, the building provides 90 public desktop computers and a study lounge open to students 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Janis Bandelin, director of libraries, says, "We are a library with and without walls, a library of bricks and clicks."

The \$25 million project was funded through the university's Forever Furman Campaign (completed in 2002) and kick-started by a \$9.5 million gift from The Duke Endowment, after whose founder, James Buchanan Duke, the library is named.

The first phase of the project began in 2002 with construction of the Charlie Peace Wing, a 52,000-square-foot addition that extends from the back wall of the original building toward the lake. Provided by trustee emerita Mary Peace Sterling in memory of her father, a longtime executive with *The Greenville News*, the new wing was completed last fall. It housed all library services during the 2003-04 academic year while the original building was renovated.

Despite occasional problems, notably several incidents of flooding and a lightning strike that destroyed one of the building's chimneys and delayed for a month the Special Collections department's move to its new quarters, construction proceeded apace. Although finishing touches on the building continued well into fall term this year, essential services were ready to go by the start of school in early September.

Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, a Boston architectural firm, provided the new design, and Neal Prince and Partners, a Greenville firm, oversaw construction and interior design.

The results are stunning. Patrons enter a building that is open, spacious and warm, with inviting colors, wood paneling, comfortable new furniture and a diverse mix of complementary hues and textures.



The most spectacular new architectural detail is a central stairway that serves as the focal point for the entire building. The two-story Blackwell Atrium honors Gordon and Elizabeth Lyles Blackwell, president and first lady of Furman from 1965-76, and was given in their memory by their son and daughter-in-law, Gordon '60 and Cecilia Watson Blackwell '62.

Among other significant additions to the facility:

- An increase in capacity from 400,000 to 800,000 volumes.

- A research commons with computers for database access. The area is adjacent to the heavily used reference and current journal collections and includes the research assistance desk. The Rinker Research Commons was provided by the family of Leighan R. and David B. Rinker.

- A multimedia computing commons with state-of-the-art digital imaging technology. The commons area incorporates the university's computer help desk and the Center for Collaborative Learning and Communication. The Marshall E. and Vera Lea Rinker Multimedia Commons was donated by the Marshall E. Rinker, Sr., Foundation; the Herring Help Desk by Gordon '65 and Sarah Weaver Herring '66.

- Expansion of research and study space from 300 seats to more than 900 seats, including 26 group study rooms.

- A 24-hour study area, complete with computers and vending facilities. The Hamrick Family Study Lounge was given by trustee James L. Hamrick '50, his wife, Peggy Cater Hamrick '50, and their children, Mary C. Hamrick '75 and James L. Hamrick, Jr. '81.

- Expanded office and work space for library faculty and staff.

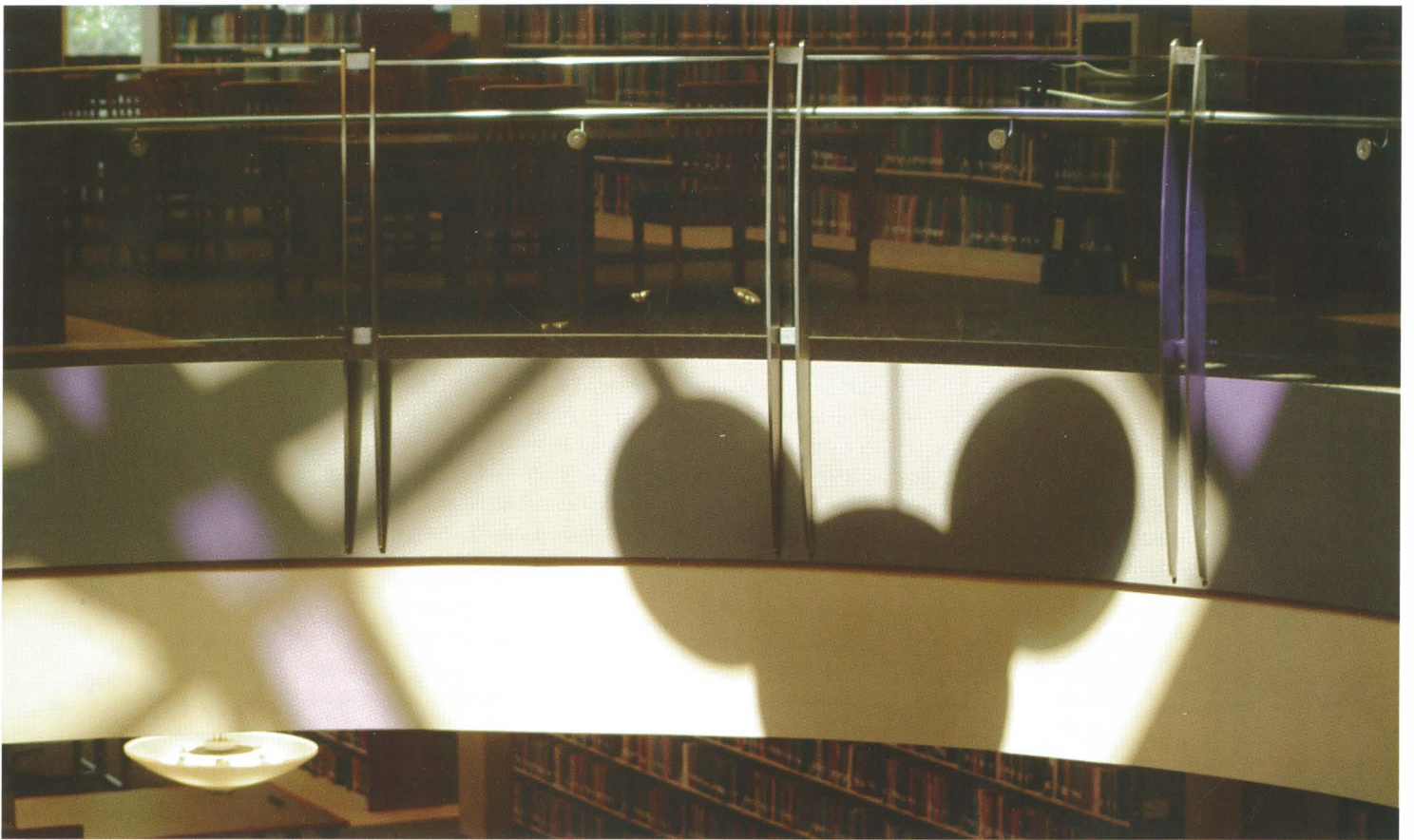
In addition, a number of environmental issues and standards were addressed throughout construction on the library, in keeping with Furman's strategic commitment to sustainability. (See page 13.)

Not surprisingly, the university has declared 2004-05 the "Year of the Library" and scheduled a variety of speakers, programs and other commemorative events tied to the new facility. The complete schedule is on-line at <http://library.furman.edu/yotl>.

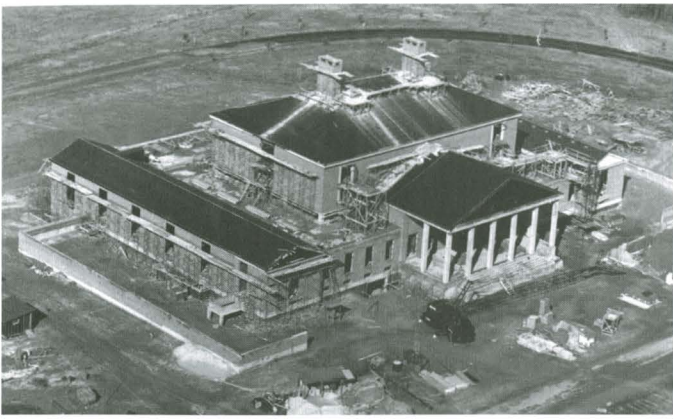
Library director Bandelin says, "Thanks to the generosity of our donors we now have one of the finest libraries among liberal arts colleges in the nation. We celebrate its restoration as the center of the university's intellectual life and as a dynamic learning environment for students."

— Jim Stewart

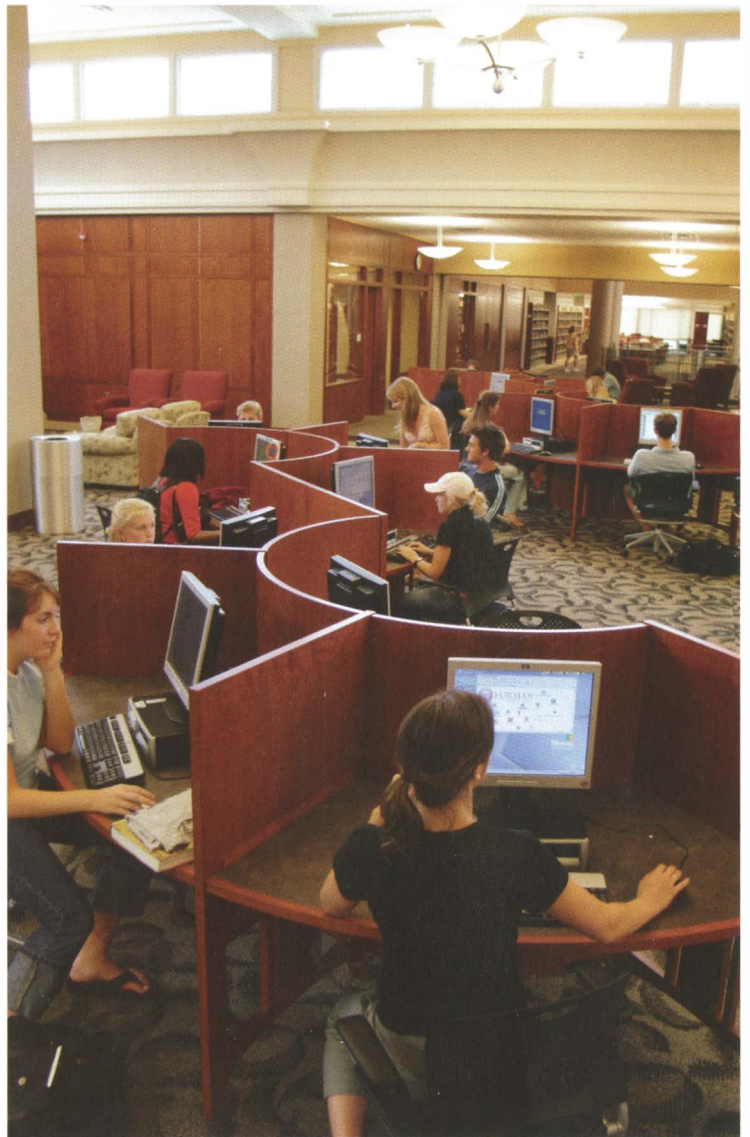
Previous pages: The Blackwell Atrium, with its circular staircase, signature skylight and open view to the main entrance, is the focal point of the revamped and renovated library.



Opposite: Patrons may use a laptop anywhere in the building thanks to its wireless network. Automatic shades on the building's west (lake) and south sides help with glare and temperature control. This page: Sunlight streaming through the atrium can cast unusual shadows; 26 study rooms allow students to work collaboratively without disturbing others.



The campus from above, with a remarkably clear view of the 52,000-square-foot Charlie Peace Wing plus an overhead comparison of the original and expanded facility; students enjoy access to countless databases, journals and e-books through 90 public computers.





This page: The circulation desk and main floor, old and new. Opposite: Night view of the Charlie Peace Wing.

The rededication ceremony for the expanded and renovated James B. Duke Library was held October 28. To view the commemorative program, which features a history of the library, list of donors, floor plans and other related information, visit the Web at <http://library.furman.edu> and follow the link.



James B. Duke Library: Green facts

- Twenty-five percent of the materials used in construction of the building contain recycled content.
- Concrete in the library consists of more than the usual cement, sand, stone and water composition. Fly ash, a by-product of coal burning, was added to reduce the amount of cement required yet maintain strength. Cement production is a high energy consumption process.
- Sensors in the building's ductwork detect the carbon dioxide exhaled when we breathe. This data is used to monitor the amount of outside air that needs to be introduced to keep oxygen levels optimal.
- Low-VOC (volatile organic compound) paints, adhesives and carpets help reduce the possibility of indoor air pollution.
- New and replacement windows have a low-emissivity coating, which allows maximum daylight to enter but blocks ultraviolet light, which can cause the temperature in the building to rise. The glass also reduces glare.
- Automatic shades are installed on the south and west sides of the building.
- An air/vapor barrier created a building skin to eliminate air infiltration and mold growth.
- The lighting in reading areas is controlled by photo sensors that measure available daylight.
- Seventy-five percent of the waste generated during construction was recycled.

Then and now: A Comparison

Facts and figures about the library from its original construction date to today:

| YEAR | in 1956 | in 2004 |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Cost of Building | \$1,788,000 | \$25,000,000 |
| Square Footage | 70,000 | 122,000 |
| Library Faculty & Staff | 8 | 28 |
| Capacity (volumes) | 250,000 | 800,000+ |
| Reader Seats | 750 | 800+ |
| Group Study Rooms | 0 | 26 |
| Public Computers | 0 | 90 |
| Enrollment* | 1,500 | 2,900 |
| University Faculty | 70 | 200 |

* Includes graduate students



A Ship of Royal Make

It was a crisp, cold day on March 6, 1945, when H.R. Crosland, a Furman alumnus and a professor at the University of Oregon, ascended a small platform at the Oregon Shipbuilding Yard near Portland to deliver the principal address for the christening ceremony of the *SS Furman Victory*.

Wearing a heavy, dark overcoat as protection against the brisk, salty breeze, Crosland told the small crowd, "As a one time student of Furman University I have been honored by President [John] Plyler with the pleasant assignment of representing at this ceremony Furman University of Greenville, South Carolina. I bring an expression of gratitude from its faculty, alumni, students and friends. . . .

"The many alumni for Furman scattered in distant lands and on the seven seas, serving their country with gallantry and patriotic devotion, will be gratified at the high honor accorded their institution today."

Resting upon steel trigger plates, which kept the ship upright on land, the *Furman* was a handsome, stately vessel. From stern to bow, she measured 455 feet and her beam (width) was 62 feet. Nearly 40 feet separated the base of her hull and her deck. Although the *Furman* was a cargo ship, she was equipped with two 5-inch and eight 20-millimeter guns — enough to ward off menacing aircraft.

Closing his brief remarks, Crosland quoted a stanza of the university's alma mater:

"A ship of royal make is she,
And brings her treasures from afar,
Her truth it is that makes us free,
And shines her beacon like a star.
'Twas Furman's hand that laid her keel,
And Judson set her ribs of steel,
The Fathers, prayerful for our weal,
Launched our dear Alma Mater."

Tucking away his hand-written notes, the professor joined Mrs. Carl C. Donough, wife of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, at the ship's bow. In keeping with tradition — and even though the university for which the ship was named was a Southern Baptist institution — Donough shattered a bottle of champagne over the *Furman*.

Headed for the Pacific, the *SS Furman Victory* and her 52-member crew coasted down the way. To a smattering of applause, she slipped into the Willamette River at a speed of 18 knots.

An article announcing the date of the christening appeared in the February 24 issue of the Furman student

newspaper. A recounting of the event, along with photos of the *Furman* and of Crosland, was published in the *Bulletin of Furman University* in April, 1945, and a brief mention of the ceremony appeared again in the April 1946 issue.

In university publications, however, the ship was evidently never mentioned again. Once she was launched, it seems that the *SS Furman Victory* sailed out of the memory of her namesake.

So, when a Furman supporter noticed a photo of the *SS Furman Victory* on eBay this summer and notified the university, many were surprised. After all, there is no mention of the *Furman* in Alfred S. Reid's comprehensive history of Furman, published in 1976, or in *Furman University, A History*, written by Robert Norman Daniel and published in 1951. Several longtime faculty and staff members familiar with the school's history were also unable to recall the ship.

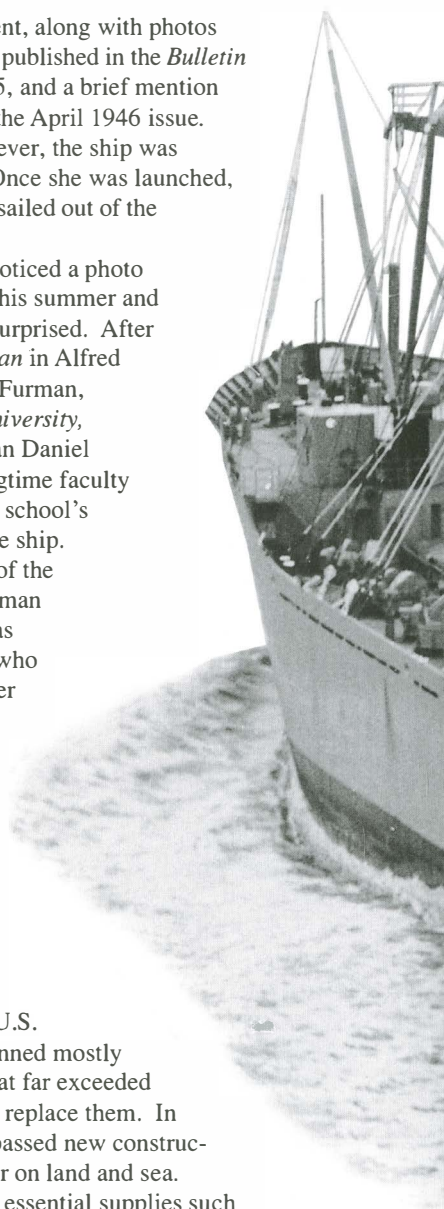
But John L. Plyler, Jr. '56, son of the man who served as president of Furman from 1939-64, did remember. "I was just a boy at the time," says Plyler, who lives in Davidson, N.C. "I remember being disappointed that it was a cargo ship. I wanted it to be a battleship."

How did the *SS Furman Victory* come to be, and what was her fate?

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor brought America into World War II in 1941, Japanese and German submarines began sinking U.S. merchant ships — cargo vessels manned mostly by Merchant Marines — at a rate that far exceeded the ability of American shipyards to replace them. In 1941 and 1942, shipping losses surpassed new construction as the Axis was winning the war on land and sea.

Because merchant ships carried essential supplies such as food, armaments and medicine, they were targeted by enemy aircraft and warships. As a percentage of their ranks, the Merchant Marines — who manned the Victory ships and their predecessors, the Liberty vessels — suffered more loss of life than any other branch of the U.S. service.

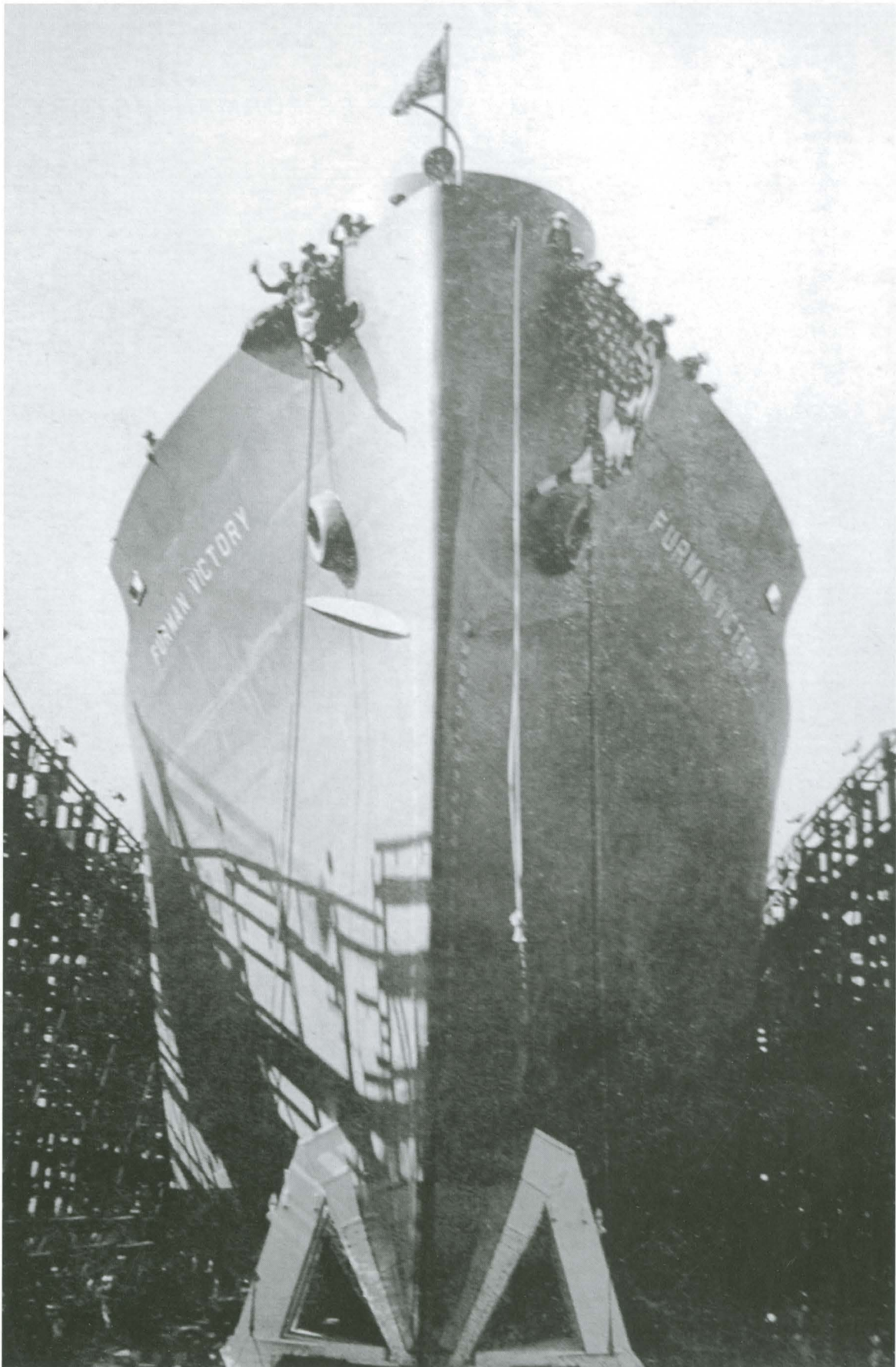
Liberty ships were boxy, slow-moving cargo vessels that were produced in great numbers during the war's early years. Most of the 2,710 Liberty ships manufactured during



THE STORY OF THE SS *FURMAN VICTORY*.

BY JOHN ROBERTS





The SS Furman Victory measured 455 feet from stern to bow and was 62 feet wide. This photo of the ship preparing for launch appeared in the Bulletin of Furman University in April, 1945. Previous page: Thanks to John Plyler '56 for securing the photo of the Furman at sea from the U.S. Naval Institute in Annapolis, Md.

the war were named after individuals — patriots, scientists, educators and industrialists. Beginning in 1944, though, these ships, called “ugly ducklings” by sailors, began to be replaced by a new class of cargo vessels: the Victory.

Because of their sleek design, Victory ships could travel up to 18 knots, compared to the Liberty’s 11 knots, and could better evade the enemy. Victory ships could also carry slightly more cargo than their sister ships.

Victory and Liberty ships were the workhorses of the American fleet. They played a vital role in winning the war by transporting an estimated 85 percent of the troops, ammunition and supplies used to support the Allied war effort in both the European and Pacific theaters.

The *Furman* was one of 534 Victory ships produced in 1944 and 1945. The first 34 were named in honor of Allied nations; others carried the names of U.S. cities and some of the nation’s oldest colleges and universities.

When the keel was laid for the *SS Furman Victory* on January 23, 1945, the cargo shipbuilding industry was reaching peak construction and efficiency levels. The handful of shipyards manufacturing these vessels under the U.S. Maritime Commission employed a labor force of 640,000 — slightly less than the combined current population of Greenville and Spartanburg counties. In 1941, factories were turning out a new ship every 160 days. By late 1945, however, the average construction time had dropped to 60 days. From keel to launch, the *Furman* was completed in a remarkable 66 days.

According to *Ships for Victory*, a book by Frederic C. Lane that examines shipbuilding under the U.S. Maritime Commission during World War II, 40 of the oldest colleges and universities in the United States were selected to have a Victory ship named for them. In addition to Furman, The Citadel, Winthrop and Davidson also had ships named in their honor, as did Notre Dame, Dartmouth, Colgate, Brown, Temple and Creighton.

Jay Martin, executive director of the American Victory Mariners Memorial and Museum Ship in Tampa, Fla., says that college campuses and their communities rallied around their ships. Many sent a delegation to the launching ceremonies and sponsored a small on-board library for their ship’s crew. Davidson, for example, contributed 200 books to the *SS Davidson Victory* library. Other colleges donated games, phonographs and records.

Although there is no documentation of anyone at Furman sending books to the *SS Furman Victory*, Martin says it is likely that the university made a donation of some kind.

“For the named colleges, the Victory ships did a lot to boost morale back home,” says Martin. “But after the war they were quickly forgotten. The connection was lost.”

After the Allies secured victory in World War II, Victory ships were used primarily to transfer construction materials and other supplies in a massive U.S. effort to rebuild war-torn Europe and Japan. Later, many were leased to private firms and foreign countries to be used as freighters and passenger transports.

According to U.S. Naval records, the *SS Furman Victory* served in the Pacific campaign in the waning years of World War II and later in the Korean Conflict. In 1963, she was taken over by the U.S. Navy and was part of a fleet that carried ballistic missiles and other provisions to ocean-going submarines.

During the 1970s and early '80s, the *Furman* transported thousands of miles of underwater, sound-sensitive military cable that was laid on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean. The cable was capable of tracking movement of Soviet submarines, says Carl Friberg, a U.S. Navy veteran who served briefly as master of the *Furman* during the 1980s.

“She was a fine vessel and was one of the few Victory ships that remained in service [at the time],” says Friberg. “I served on the ship but was unfamiliar with her history.”

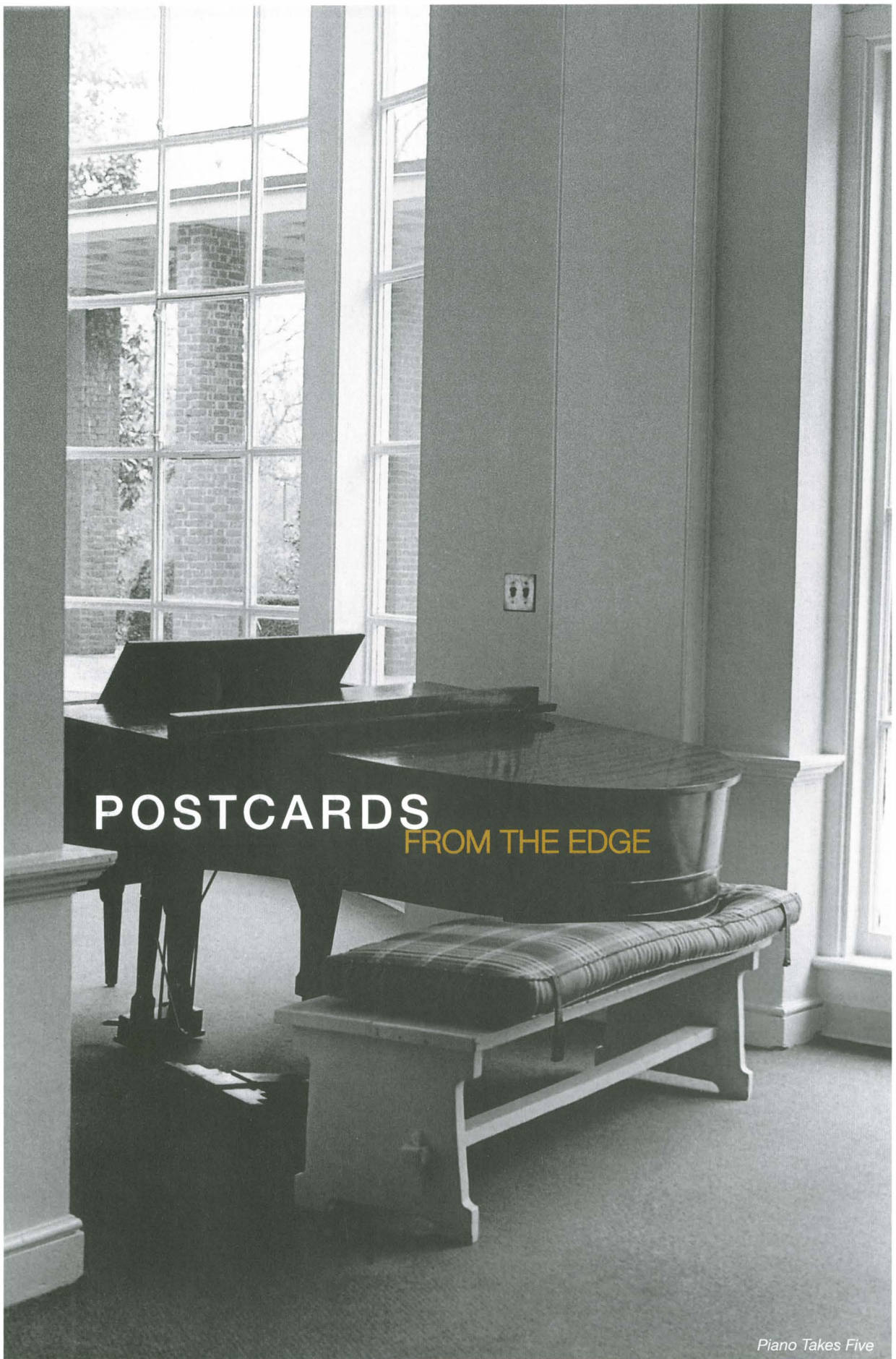
The *Furman* was retired on July 22, 1993, turned over to the Maritime Administration and put in mothballs with the Maritime’s reserve fleet in Beaumont, Texas. Most of the other 534 Victory ships had long since been dismantled or submerged, says Peter Stoudt, a writer and former assistant dean at the University of Virginia who is working on a book about the Normandy Invasion.

“Of the Victory cargo ships built in World War II, many at Oregon Shipbuilding, the *Furman Victory* was one of three left in existence. She also was in the best condition of the remaining three and in the most original configuration,” says Stoudt, who is leading an effort to preserve Victory ships.

The *Furman* languished in Beaumont for a nearly a decade before being sold to a scrap company from Brownsville, Texas, for \$150. In November of 2003, the almost 60-year-old *Furman* was towed to Brownsville and dismantled.

“She was the choice for us to bring back to Portland as a memorial ship,” says Stoudt. “The dismantling occurred while we were in the process of establishing a preservation project. The *Furman* is gone, and this has been a historical loss.”

Although black and white photographs are all that remain of the *SS Furman Victory*, visitors to the American Victory Mariners Memorial and Museum Ship in Tampa can learn more about Victory ships. The museum and memorial, housed on a restored *SS American Victory*, offers visitors a self-guided tour and cruises. For more information, visit www.americanvictory.org.



POSTCARDS

FROM THE EDGE

Piano Takes Five

PRESENTING SOME NOT SO TYPICAL VIEWS OF THE FURMAN CAMPUS.

As Amanda Fowler began preparing her entries for the 2004 Senior Art Show, she decided to include something different in the exhibit, which each spring features the best work produced by the graduating art majors during their time at Furman.

After pondering the possibilities, Fowler, who intends to pursue a Master of Fine Arts degree in photography, came up with the idea of a set of black and white photographs, done postcard style — or, to use her term, “anti-postcards.” The twist: She would depict less exciting, more mundane aspects of campus life than are typically showcased in the glossy, Chamber of Commerce shots one ordinarily sees in university publications such as — ahem — *Furman* magazine.

But instead of producing a snide or sarcastic photographic commentary showing the flip side of America’s most beautiful campus, she took a more subtle tact, focusing on every-day scenes that might not ordinarily attract attention but that, over the course of her stay on campus, had left a mark on her psyche.

She did her work in the late fall and winter, when the surroundings are more severe than during the rest of the year, and her decision to shoot in black and white added to the impact of the photos. Some she posed; others she discovered as she wandered around campus. During the Senior Show, she displayed them on a postcard “wheel” similar to one you might see at the checkout counter of your neighborhood store.

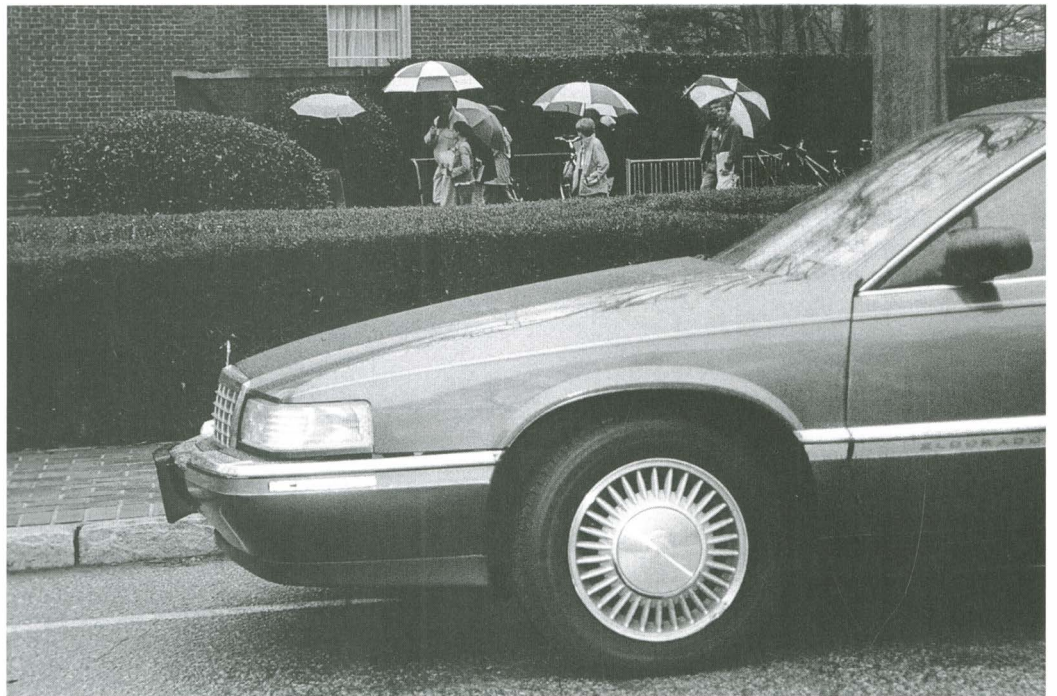
The result is less a collection of “anti-postcards” than a nostalgic and, in the end, affectionate take on the campus and campus life as she saw it. At their best, and in their unadorned way, the photos might cause one to nod and smile and say, “Oh yeah, I remember that.”

We offer a selection here. The full set features 23 prints. To see other samples from the collection or to purchase a print, write Amanda at fowler04an@yahoo.com.

— Jim Stewart



Chapel View



Prospectives



Priorities!



Please Don't Break Us



The Bell Tower



Sunrise



An Undergrad

I'm Not That Kind of Duck



Furmanreports

Homecoming '04

Although Homecoming is supposed to be all about alumni, FUSAB (Furman University Student Activities Board) did a good job of upstaging the traditional activities this year by sponsoring an attention-grabbing contest during the week leading up to the festivities.

Playing off "Survivor," the popular reality television series, FUSAB introduced its own version: "Furman University: The Academic Outback." In this case, rather than outwitting, outplaying and outlasting their fellow contestants in some exotic, character-testing location, six students were required to live together in a Range Rover outside the University Center from November 2-5 (three nights). As sophomore Katie Levans wrote on FUNet, the university's internal electronic news site, the goal was to win "a battle of patience, endurance, intellect and athletic ability . . . in a fight for a \$1,000 cash prize and the title of the original ultimate Furman survivor."

Eight students were initially selected from 37 applicants to take part in the event. After two were eliminated in a game-opening contest, the rest climbed into the car to launch their adventure. FU2, the campus television station, broadcast the event, and FUNet mounted a Webcam in the car. When it worked, which

'Academic Outback,' win over Georgia Southern highlight festivities

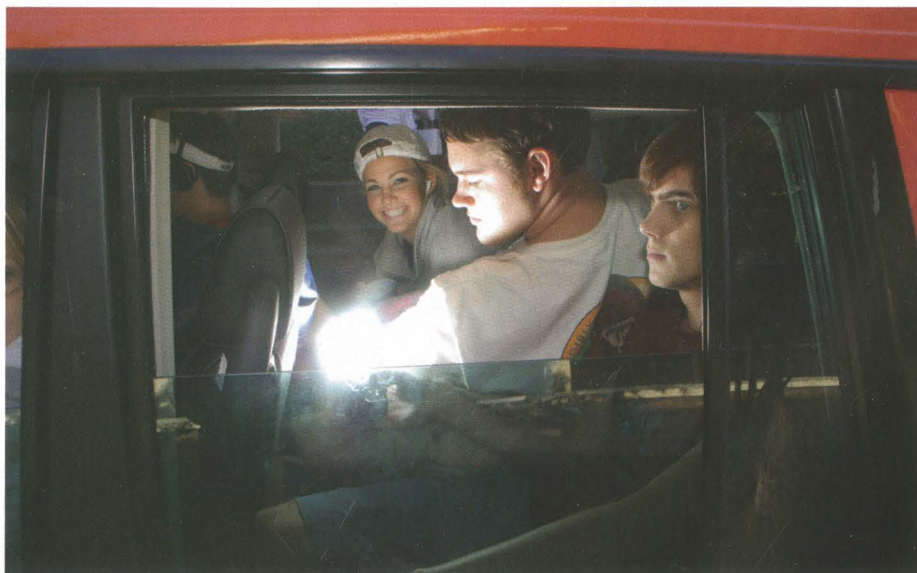
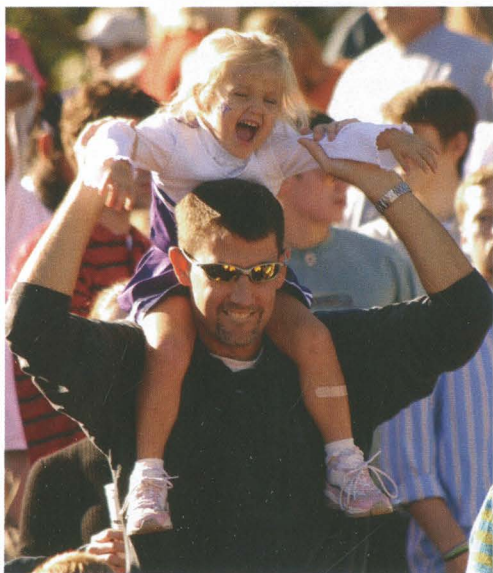


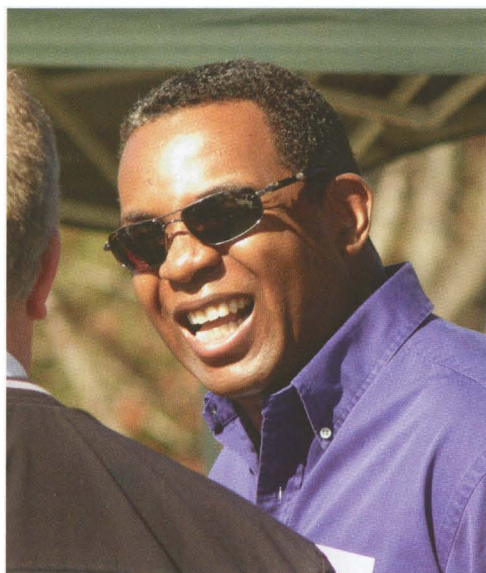
was sporadically, it allowed the curious to see how the students were doing any time of the day or night — except when they decided to block the camera.

The competitors were allowed occasional bathroom breaks and could earn "immunity" and other rewards by winning special challenges. For some reason, however, they were also required to attend classes — under the watchful eye of a

FUSAB escort. Periodically they held vehicular councils and voted out a member of the group. In the end, junior Gray Clevenger endured limited sleep, a smelly car and assorted other indignities to emerge with the ultimate reward.

Once the Academic Outback ended and Homecoming Weekend (November 5-7) officially began, the focus returned to where it belonged: on alumni.





Conveniently, autumn finally decided to put in an appearance, bringing clear skies and crisp weather to the hundreds who returned to campus to mix, mingle and reminisce. Many took advantage of the opportunity to tour the latest in Furman's collection of new-look buildings, the James B. Duke Library.

As usual, though, the key elements of Homecoming were reunions, football and special honors. Reunion gatherings for classes ending in 4 and 9 were held Saturday night at various spots in downtown Greenville, with the Hyatt Regency hosting a dance for all of those so inclined. Thanks to the Paladins' pulsating 29-22 victory over powerful Georgia Southern in front of the fourth-largest crowd to see a game in Paladin Stadium, this year's celebrations had an extra zip to them.

As for the alumni awards, the 2004 recipients were recognized, respectively, for their business acumen, social consciousness and devotion to alma mater.

Paul A. Stroup III '73, chairman of the board, president and CEO of Charlotte, N.C.-based Lance, Inc., received the Distinguished Alumni Award for his success as a businessman and his support for community causes. Stroup has worked with the Lance snack food

company ever since he graduated from Furman, rising steadily through the corporate ranks. In addition to his leadership in the snack food industry, Stroup is active in church and civic causes in Charlotte. At Furman, he is a member of the Trustees Circle and the university's Advisory Council.

Christine Matthews '96 earned the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for her work with "Clubhouse," a ministry for Greenville's low-income children that she established as a student. After she graduated, Clubhouse became her full-time vocation. She is now minister of Minus Chapel United Methodist Church — the first white woman in South Carolina to be appointed to pastor a historically black congregation — and with her husband, Kyle Thompson, she has been a foster parent to eight children. She was named a "hero" by the governor of South Carolina during the state's "Year of the Child."

George Edward Linney, Jr. '65 received the university's Alumni Service Award. A longtime member of the Paladin Club, he is a past president of the Alumni Association and is chair of the Trustees Circle. Holder of an M.D. degree from the Medical College of

Georgia, Linney, like Stroup a resident of Charlotte, is an independent healthcare consultant who has been president of the American College of Physician Executives and a member of the board of the American Group Practice Association.

Opposite page, clockwise from top: The recipients of major alumni awards were, from left, Paul Stroup '73, Christine Matthews '96 and George Linney '65; Gray Clevenger '06 (right, beside window) proved to be the ultimate survivor; Bruce Usher '89 and daughter Emilia clearly had a blast.

This page, clockwise from top right: Students reveled in the Paladins' goal-line stand in the third quarter, then stormed the field to celebrate the victory; Stanford Jennings '84, former star running back and now a member of the board of trustees, was among the alumni who enjoyed the Saturday festivities, the glorious weather, the mall displays and the talents of the Paladin Regiment. Photos by Charlie Register, Mona Register and Morgen Young

Professors of note: Meritorious advising, teaching award

Armstrong helps students uncover hidden gifts

For new professors at Furman, their first year is typically a whirlwind of activity. In addition to teaching a full load of classes, they become immersed in Furman culture and procedures, work long hours and do their best to make a good first impression.

Understandably, academic departments do not usually assign advisees to professors until their second year — after they've had a chance to catch their breath.

Yet Communication Studies professor **John Armstrong** was not afforded that luxury. Shortly after arriving at Furman in 2002, he was assigned more than 40 advisees. With 120 majors and just four full-time professors, the fast-growing department had no other alternative.

But Armstrong, a former television news producer, quickly displayed a tremendous capacity for work. To say that he made a favorable first impression would be an understatement.

At the 2004 Commencement, Armstrong was awarded the **Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Advising**, becoming the first professor to receive the honor after just two years of service.

Fellow Communication Studies professor Sean O'Rourke says that Armstrong, who teaches broadcast journalism, mass communication and media law, takes an intense personal interest in each of his advisees. "He aggressively pursues them," says O'Rourke. "He is not complacent, nor does he allow his advisees to be complacent. If an advisee does not make an appointment, John will call, e-mail and even find that student outside a classroom."

In letters nominating Armstrong for the advising award, colleagues and students described his knack for discovering and cultivating the hidden gifts that each student possesses.

"To be a good advisor you have to be a good listener," he says. "You need to understand students' intellectual and extracurricular interests. You have to connect."

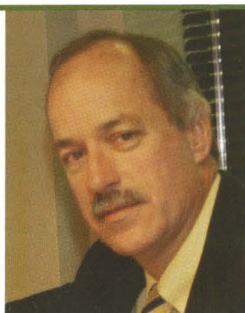
Such strengths, normally honed after years in the classroom, seem to come naturally to Armstrong, who joined the Furman faculty after working for 14 years in broadcast journalism. A native of California, he graduated from Pomona College with a degree in history in 1977. He earned a master's degree in journalism from the University of California in 1981.

While Armstrong flourished as a video journalist for CNN and as a producer for stations in Denver and Salt Lake City, he increasingly felt like a frustrated professor, preferring discussions about the larger issues of mass communications to the daily grind of churning out a newscast.

In 2002, he earned his Ph.D. in communication from the University of Utah and embarked on his teaching career.

Thanks to his television background, Armstrong was able to quickly cultivate relationships with local media, including members of the South Carolina Broadcasters Association. He uses these ties to help students land internships that provide them the hands-on experience they need before entering the workforce.

— John Roberts



Students wait in line for Bainbridge's advice

Compared to many Furman professors, **Judy Bainbridge** is assigned relatively few advisees — 11.

But every year, hundreds of students actually seek her counsel. During class breaks her self-described "smoking bench" outside Furman Hall is usually populated with at least one student.

Many who come to her for help are first-year students enrolled in her English 11 (composition) class who are trying to come to grips with the academic rigors of college. More seasoned students seek her advice and renowned proofreading skills in applying to graduate school. Few medical and law school applications, in fact, leave Furman without her scrutiny.

Bainbridge is also a surrogate advisor to upperclassmen applying for prestigious fellowships and postgraduate scholarships. So few were surprised when her name was announced at the 2004 Commencement as a recipient of the **Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Advising**.

But she was not on hand to accept the award. She was out of the country on a trip that had been planned for months.

"It just figures," she says with a laugh. "I've missed only three Commencements (in 28 years), and this would be one of them."

Bainbridge's office in Furman Hall is filled with snapshots of former students, many of whom stay in touch for years after graduating. "They are the reasons I do this," she says, pointing to the photos while ticking off names, job titles and career paths. "It's the students, the relationships."

Bainbridge, who came to Furman in 1976, is a first-generation college student who graduated from Mary Washington College with a degree in English and later earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Iowa. She taught at Queens College and Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., before coming to Furman. In 2001 she published *Academy and College*, a book detailing the history of the Greenville Woman's College, and she writes a regular column on local history for *The Greenville News*.

Despite having achieved a degree of celebrity in Greenville as a columnist, author and speaker, Bainbridge says her most fulfilling and meaningful work is done between classes — in her office and on her smoking bench.

"I really enjoy spending time with the students," she says. "I try to learn their names by the second day of class and make time for them. I listen to them, too. Anyone who truly cares about students will listen to them."

Her many fans concur.

"I truly believe her greatest contributions to Furman occur outside the classroom," says Jessica Taylor '07, editor of *The Paladin*. "Whenever you pass by Dr. Bainbridge's office, there are always multiple students waiting in line to ask her opinion on an internship, class opportunity or just a regular decision. No matter how trivial the matter, she always takes the time to speak to each student, always making a point to ask how they are and asking their input before offering her advice."

— John Roberts



rd winners for 2003-04

Ethical issues take center stage with Epright

In the case of **Carmela Epright**, the theatre world's loss became the Furman philosophy department's gain.

As a high school student in Austin, Texas, Epright was talented enough to be cast in the roles of Antigone and Medea with a community theatre group. Her acting skills earned her a scholarship to St. Edward's University, a liberal arts school in Austin.

Only she never performed on stage at St. Edward's. Instead, her portrayals of the tragic Greek heroines ignited in her a new interest: "I took the scholarship," she says, "and studied Greek philosophy."

Still, the talents she honed as an actor — timing, nuance, artistic flair — surely come in handy in her current role as an assistant professor of philosophy at Furman, a part she has played since 1999. And her ability to capture her audience was affirmed at the 2004 Commencement when she received the Furman equivalent of an Oscar: the **Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching**.

Epright came to Furman from Chicago where, while pursuing her Ph.D. at Loyola University, she worked as a bioethicist for hospitals and social service agencies. She consulted with families, patients and medical personnel about issues affecting an individual's care so that together, they could make fully informed decisions.

"You never see the happy cases. You're not called in to consult about an improving patient," says Epright, who has continued her work with hospitals and hospice programs in Greenville.

Her first case at Loyola Medical Center centered on conjoined infants whose parents and physicians were at odds over whether to separate them, which would result in the death of one child and a limited lifespan for the other. The ramifications of the case extended to a host of areas — moral, medical, financial. Ultimately, LMC refused to perform the surgery but referred the parents to a Philadelphia hospital, where the twins were separated. The surviving child died within a year.

Epright uses these kinds of experiences in class. "Everything I do as a bioethicist shapes what I do in the classroom," she says. "Students see how philosophical issues have practical applications."

For students in her Medical Ethics/Medical Sociology course, which she teaches with sociology professor Kristy Maher, "practical" hits home during their daily rotations at Greenville Memorial Hospital. Several alumni of the course recommended Epright for the teaching award, praising her scintillating lectures and passion for her job.

What seemed to register most with them, though, was her support and counsel as they struggled with the complexities of different cases. Carrie Flagler '04 said, "We saw real world situations and families in the midst of tragedy. Dr. Epright truly understood the heaviness of what we were witnessing and made herself available to discuss our emotions and experiences. She asked us to talk to her about anything that bothered us . . . you could see the pain and understanding on her face."

— Jim Stewart



Power of words: O'Rourke extols study of rhetoric

A typical day in **Sean O'Rourke's** "Introduction to Rhetoric" course might begin with the professor bounding into the classroom, a sandwich in one hand and a few notes in the other.

The notes, however, will prove unnecessary. He won't need them while delivering a spirited lecture, complete with self-deprecating anecdotes and occasional pauses to moderate a heated discussion — ignited by one of his provocative comments — or to enthrall his students by reciting, from memory and in perfect cadence, an excerpt from a famous (or not so famous) speech.

The study of rhetoric may have been in decline at one time, but of late it has enjoyed an academic renaissance. And Sean Patrick O'Rourke, associate professor of communication studies at Furman, is determined to ensure that the revival won't end.

"I can't think of any subject that's more exciting," he says. "The purpose of liberal education is cultivating an informed citizenry and developing civic leaders. We govern through robust civic discourse, so more than anything we need citizens capable of understanding and responding to all forms of public address and debate. It's central to a representative democracy."

Such is the kind of passion that he brings to his work — and that helped him earn the **2004 Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching**. He says, "I've had the good fortune to work with many fine, dedicated teachers here at Furman, and to be honored in this way is humbling and has recommitted me to the art of teaching."

In addition to his stimulating classroom presentations, O'Rourke encourages his students to become part of the public discourse, sending them into schools to introduce children to great speeches and orators and having them write and submit critiques of public addresses for publication. He models this kind of activity by frequently appearing as a television analyst and publishing his own opinion pieces.

Students appreciate how he walks the talk. Senior Laura Gibbs says, "I would like my life to be a reflection of his teaching. I would like to be [the kind of] civic leader that he would be proud of and that this university strives to produce."

O'Rourke's own college experience began at Humboldt State University in California, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in speech communication. Law school beckoned, but given his interest in rhetoric, oratory and public address, he chose to enroll in a joint J.D./Ph.D. program at the University of Oregon. When it came time to choose a full-time vocation, teaching won out.

One reason was parental influence; his father was a high school language teacher and administrator in Twinsburg, Ohio. More tellingly, O'Rourke says, "It had to do with the thrill you get when you have students who hardly seem interested in what you're talking about — then suddenly you see the light turn on. And you know you played a part in that transformation."

— Jim Stewart



Major award

Leighan Rinker, former chair of board, receives honorary degree

The highlight of the university's opening convocation September 15 was the presentation of Furman's highest award, an honorary degree, to Leighan Roberts Rinker.

Rinker, who chaired the Furman board of trustees from 2002-04, received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree for her work as an exemplary educator and philanthropist who has donated her "time, talent and resources to improving the lives of young people." A graduate of the University of North Carolina, she did graduate study at Florida Atlantic University, which presented her the Outstanding Graduate Student Award in 1989. In 1997 she earned a doctorate in educational leadership.

Active in civic and community organizations, she is the founder and executive director of Beginnings of Palm Beach County, a preschool facility affiliated with Palm Beach Atlantic

College. She received the Champion of Higher Independent Education in Florida Award in 1998.

She and her husband David first became involved with Furman as members of the Parents Council. Three of their four children — Traci Rinker Miller '89, Chris Rinker '94 and Allison Rinker St. John '96 — are Furman graduates.

Leighan was elected to the board of trustees in 1997 and soon became a leading advocate for the renovation and expansion of the James B. Duke Library, which was completed over the summer. The Rinkers are members of the Richard Furman Society and founders of the Partners scholarship program.

At the convocation, President David Shi welcomed back the returning students and once again greeted the 730 members of the Class of 2008, who had arrived for Orientation the previous week.



Leighan Rinker

Thirty-eight states are represented in the new class, with students from South Carolina (214), Georgia (127) and North Carolina (84) making up more than half of the group. Eighty-two of the first-year students finished either first or second in their high school classes, and almost 100 members of the class are legacies who have had a sibling, parent or grandparent attend Furman.

Open-air affair

In the biggest event in the brief history of the Furman Amphitheater, everything came off without a hitch October 7 when Boston Music Award recipient Howie Day and Grammy Award-winning bluegrass band Nickel Creek appeared in concert. An estimated crowd of 1,750 was on hand on the beautiful fall evening to enjoy the music and the spectacular setting, and the performers responded by rocking the house.



Paez selected for Liberty Fellows leadership program

Doris Paez, assistant professor of education at Furman, is among 20 young South Carolina leaders who comprise the inaugural class of the Liberty Fellowship program.

The program seeks to develop a network of outstanding leadership in the state by empowering its future leaders to realize their full potential. It is sponsored by the Liberty Corporation, Wofford College and The Aspen Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based group that, according to its Web site, presents conferences, seminars and policy programs designed "to foster enlightened leadership, the appreciation of timeless ideas and values, and open-minded dialogue on contemporary issues."

The 20 Liberty Fellows, chosen from



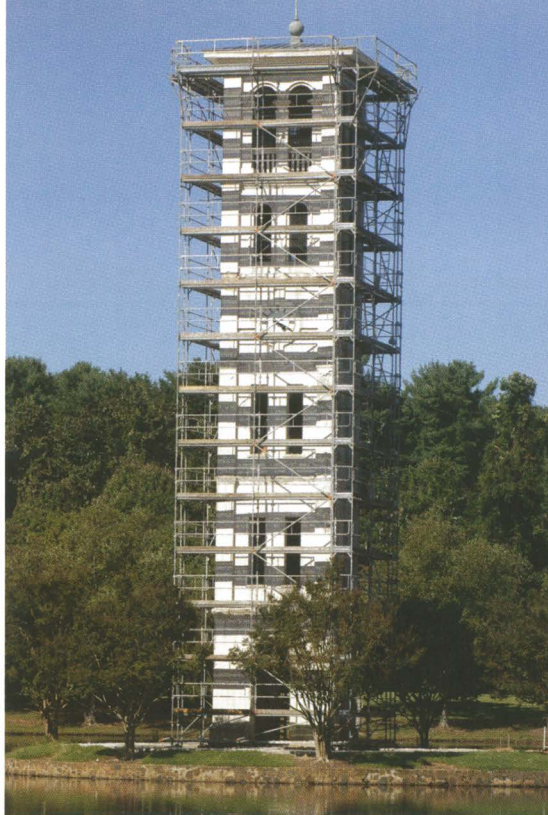
Doris Paez

215 nominees, represent the business, government and non-profit sectors and are all between the ages of 25 and 45.

For the next year and a half they will study classic texts, take part in a series of seminars and group discussions, and attend periodic meetings with the state's business, political and academic leaders. Each Fellow will also develop a community service project.

Paez, coordinator of the Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages program at Furman, also runs a psychological consulting business and serves on the boards of the Alliance for Quality Education, Success by Six and the Northwest Crescent Child and Family Development Center. She has taught at the Medical University of South Carolina, New Mexico State University and Florida International University.

She earned B.A., M.A. and Ed.S. degrees from the University of South Florida and a Ph.D. in school psychology from the University of Florida.



Bell Tower facelift

The \$1 million restoration of the Bell Tower is under way. In addition to repairing both the tower and the clock, the university is refurbishing the John Edward Burnside Carillon and building the Anniversary Walk, a path that leads from the tower to the mainland. Donors to the project will have their names engraved on the path's concrete pavers. The project is scheduled to be completed in January.

Neuroscience added; EBA department splits

Furman made two significant changes in its academic offerings this fall when it introduced a new major in neuroscience and split the Department of Economics and Business Administration into separate departments.

Over the past decade, progress in the field of neuroscience has been mirrored by interest in the topic among Furman students. In recent years, more than half of all students who designed their own majors through the Individualized Curriculum Program focused on neuroscience.

Given this interest, and given that the interdisciplinary nature of neuroscience fits into Furman's academic philosophy, the faculty voted last spring to formally establish a major in neuroscience. William Blaker, professor of biology, is director of the program.

The neuroscience program requires six core courses in psychology, biology and chemistry, plus four electives that may be chosen from the three core departments and from offerings in philosophy, computer science, physics, and interdisciplinary classes titled "Brain and Mind" and "Pathophysiology." In addition, majors must complete an empirical research project.

The program began the 2004-05 academic year with 13 declared majors.

Meanwhile, the Department of Economics and Business Administration has been divided into a Department of Economics and a Department of Business and Accounting.

The decision was made following the joint recommendation of three consultants who evaluated the EBA program last spring. After interviewing members of the EBA faculty and studying the program, they submitted their findings to Tom Kazee, vice president for academic affairs and dean.

The consultants agreed that two departments working autonomously would be better able to develop their own identities and, in the case of the Department of Business and Accounting, would have the ability to build a program that fills a special niche, such as international business.

The move will not affect existing majors who fall under the umbrella of the EBA program (economics, business administration, accounting, and interdisciplinary majors in mathematics-economics and computing-business). Cheryl Patterson is chair of the Department of Business and Accounting, and Ken Peterson heads the Department of Economics.

Research oriented

Goldwater Scholars interested in plant ecology, DNA reactions

Whether working in a lab with DNA chromosomes or trekking through a forest to observe an infestation of insects, two Furman students have found that their acumen for science can pay off in a big way.

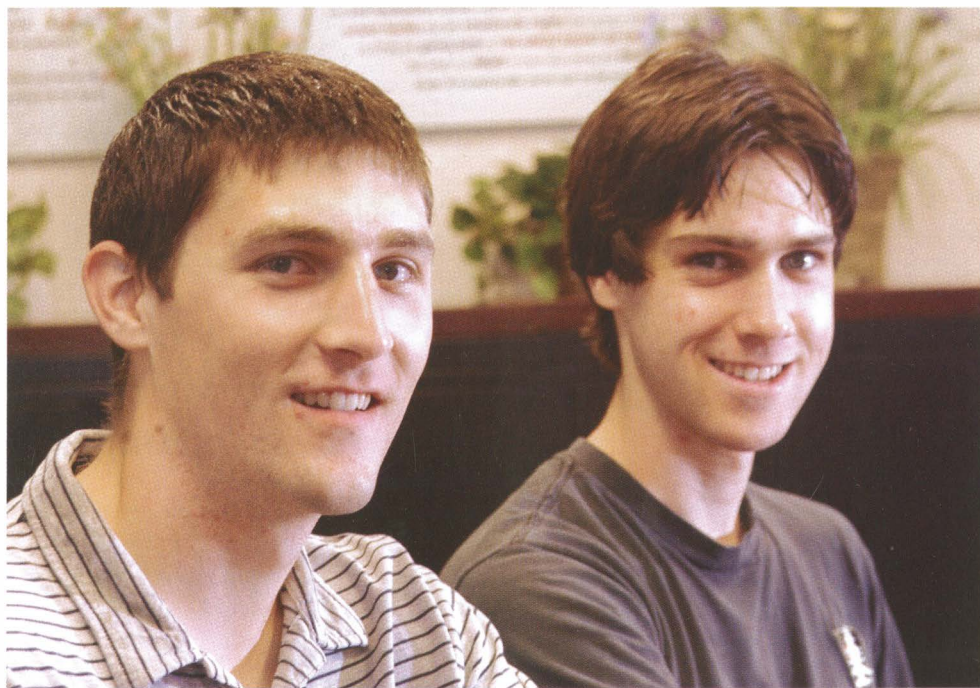
Senior Jess Riddle of Roswell, Ga., and junior Mark Turlington of Horse Shoe, N.C., are two of 310 students from across the nation to be awarded a 2004 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for excellence in science and mathematics. The prestigious scholarship, named for the late senator from Arizona, provides an annual stipend of \$7,500 to cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, room and board.

Riddle, who holds a Furman honor scholarship and the Carolinas Foothills Garden Club scholarship, has conducted research that requires him to go “out on a limb” to investigate the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. The insect, which is native to Asia, is now endangering Hemlock trees along the northeast coast of the United States. “They’re a major threat to our ecosystems,” he says. “I tried to get involved with efforts looking at control and monitoring of the insect.”

Long interested in plants and insects and their effects on natural reserves, Riddle has pursued this research for a number of years. “I did a lot of research on trees outside of class on my own time,” he says.

Through Furman’s Individualized Curriculum Program (ICP), he has designed his own major, combining classes from the departments of biology, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences and mathematics into a curriculum he calls “Interdisciplinary Plant Ecology.” He hopes to pursue a graduate degree in plant ecology.

Turlington, a chemistry major, was counseled by his advisor, Moses Lee,



Mark Turlington (left) and Jess Riddle bring to 15 the number of Furman students who have been named Goldwater Scholars since 1986.

to apply for the Goldwater Scholarship. Turlington had worked with Lee in the summer of 2003, doing research on polyambic DNA and their reactions to proteins to increase the effectiveness of drug treatment to these cells.

“The DNA has minor grooves in them,” he says. “The proteins and other things bind to those genes, regulating a lot of the genes. The polyamids are able to bind to the minor grooves in place of those proteins. The goal is that if you bind our drug there you can regulate gene transcription and translation and be able to control the cell and turn genes off and on.”

Although their first summer of research produced limited results, he and Lee continued their work in the summer of 2004 and are encouraged by the progress they have made.

Both Turlington and Riddle agree that the university’s emphasis on under-

graduate research helped them earn the scholarships. “Furman has a good base of classes that I could take and apply to many areas. It’s strong in multiple departments,” says Riddle.

Turlington adds the Goldwater award to his string of scholarships, which include the James B. Duke, Robert C. Byrd and Dow Chemical. He says, “The chemistry department really takes an active role in ensuring every student has research opportunities. If I were at a big university, there’s no way I would have ever entered a lab with a professor working one-on-one with me.”

— Jessica Taylor '07

The author, an English major from Elizabethton, Tenn., is editor of The Paladin.

BOOK MARKS

Featuring summaries of books written by Furman faculty and alumni, as well as reviews of books recommended by faculty and staff as "good reads."

FROM ALUMNI

George Singleton '80, *Why Dogs Chase Cars* (Algonquin, 2004). The publisher says, "To be consistently funny is a great gift, but to be funny and cynical and empathetic all at the same time is George Singleton's special gift." In his latest story collection, Singleton, who was profiled in the Winter 2003 issue of *Furman* magazine, chronicles the life and times of Mendal Dawes of Forty-Five, S.C., and his relationship with his eccentric father. *Booklist* says, "Mendal's growing pains, while universal, are treated with freshness and Eli Whitney-like inventiveness. . . . Singleton creates a dead-on portrait of the way we carry our childhoods into adulthood and how, despite vows to leave small towns, we can end up back home, still running, like stray dogs hoping a passing car will stop and give us a ride somewhere else."

Robert Whitlow '76, *Life Everlasting* (WestBow Press, 2004). This is the fifth legal thriller from Whitlow, a lawyer in Charlotte, N.C., who was profiled in the Winter 2004 issue of *Furman* magazine. Called the "John Grisham of the Christian fiction market," he is a winner of the Christy Award, given by the Christian Booksellers Association for outstanding fiction. *Life Everlasting* is set in Charleston, S.C., where, in the publisher's words, "deadly mysteries and legal twists unfold. . . . Whitlow confidently weaves romance and mystery into this signature and suspenseful legal thriller." The book is a sequel to *Life Support*, released in 2003.

Lucinda Secrest McDowell '74, *What We've Learned So Far* (Life Journey/Cook Communications, 2004). Author of five books and contributor to many others, McDowell asked leading Christian women authors and speakers to offer their thoughts on the topic of turning 50. The publisher says this compilation "was created for every woman who wants to boldly look to the future and invest in the lives of others while creating a legacy of love." McDowell runs a Connecticut-based ministry and has extensive experience in publishing, speaking and radio broadcasting. Visit her Web site, www.encouragingwords.net.

Tom Rybolt '76, *Forbidden Light* (Creative Arts Book Company, 2004). The author is a chemistry professor at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. His novel focuses on Ben Barnes, a graduate student at Atlanta Institute of Technology who discovers a formula that could solve the world's energy problems — but could also disrupt the energy industry. Barnes faces assorted crises, including two explosions, mysterious problems with his graduate placement exams and an encounter with a runaway Mercedes. *Booklist* says, "This kind of old-fashioned scientific romance doesn't grow on bushes these days, and Rybolt does it well enough not to have to worry, one would think, about publishing his next yarn."

Barbara Pasco Laymon '76, *The Devil's Inbox* (Augsburg Books, 2004). The publisher describes this book, which chronicles the efforts of a devilish advisor and a "tempter-in-training" to influence a young woman's life, as "an

insightful, informative, and clever survey of the Christian life." In style, the book is said to emulate *The Screwtape Letters*. The author received her undergraduate degree in mathematics-computer science and later earned a master's degree in public health. She is a student of theology and a community health planner in Chattanooga, Tenn.

J. Elizabeth Miller '79, Bron Ingoldsby and Suzanne Smith, *Exploring Family Theories* (Roxbury Press, 2004). Miller, an associate professor of family and child studies at Northern Illinois University, joined with her co-authors to compile this text, the first of its kind designed expressly for undergraduates. The book integrates theory, research and application while introducing students to various theoretical perspectives on families. It includes case studies and journal articles that illustrate how various theories are used in research.

Michael Martinez '84, *Life and Death in Civil War Prisons: The Parallel Torments of Corporal John Wesly Minnich, C.S.A., and Sergeant Warren Lee Goss, U.S.A.* (Rutledge Hill, 2004). Author and editor of three other books, including *Confederate Symbols in the Contemporary South* (2001), Martinez is an attorney and part-time political science instructor at Kennesaw (Ga.) State University. Here he examines prison life during the Civil War through the stories of a Louisiana teen-ager and a sergeant from Massachusetts. The publisher says, "The book strips the war of its romance and pageantry. What is left is the hardship and horror of the war — and the extraordinary courage of American soldiers from both North and South."

Jonathan Rogers '91, *The Bark of the Bog Owl* (Broadman & Holman, 2004). This is the first installment in a series titled "The Wilderking Trilogy." The fantasy-adventure — an epic tale "told with an American accent," as the author says — follows 12-year-old shepherd boy Aidan Errolson's emergence as the

national hero of the land of Corenwald. *Publishers Weekly* says the book, which echoes the works of Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, "takes biblical fiction to a new level in an imaginative fantasy rendition of the story of King David that both enchants and entertains." The author is a freelance writer in Nashville, Tenn., who holds a Ph.D. in 17th century English literature from Vanderbilt University. Visit the Web site, www.wilderking.com.

Lauren Johnson Rice '92, *The Messenger of Saigon* (Authorhouse, 2004). This historical novel, set in 1963, tells the story of CIA involvement in the removal from office and subsequent assassination of South Vietnamese president Ngo Dinh Diem. The author recently earned a master's degree in history from Wayne State University, with a concentration in U.S. foreign relations and, specifically, Vietnam War studies. The manuscript was her master's essay at Wayne State — the first novel accepted in the history of the department. Visit her Web site at www.laurenricebooks.com.

ABOUT AN ALUMNUS

Alexander Blackburn, *Meeting the Professor: Growing Up in the William Blackburn Family* (John F. Blair, 2004). In this dual portrait of father and son, the author tells of growing up as the son of William Blackburn, a legendary professor of English at Duke University — and a 1921 Furman graduate. During his years at Duke the senior Blackburn, the first Furman graduate to be named a Rhodes Scholar, served as mentor to such gifted writers as William Styron, Reynolds Price, Fred Chappell and Anne Tyler, among others. Duke holds an annual literary festival bearing his name. The younger Blackburn went on to become a novelist, essayist and educator; he is professor emeritus of English at the University of Colorado.

Furman philanthropy

Loyalty personified

Early in 1953, John Roy Folsom agreed to assume an important task: the presidency of the Alumni Association.

His appointment to such a major leadership post was especially significant, because he would serve as the first president of a united Furman Alumni Association — one that would include graduates of both Furman and of Greenville Woman's College. In previous years, GWC alumnae had maintained their own separate organization. But with the groundbreaking for the new campus just months away, establishing a single Alumni Association seemed a logical advance step in anticipation of the new campus uniting the entire student body in one location.

Folsom, a 1940 Furman graduate and Navy veteran of World War II, helped make the transition a smooth one. At the time he and his wife, Anita Anderson Folsom '40 (whom he married in 1941), lived in Greenville, where he was an insurance executive with Liberty Life.

John, who as a student edited the *Bonhomie* and was elected to Quaternion, the select men's honorary society, seemed especially excited about the opportunity to lead the Alumni Association at such a defining moment in Furman history. As he wrote in the May-June 1953 issue of *Furman Magazine*, "To be a Furman graduate is in itself a source of genuine pride . . . Furman men and women have a particularly great opportunity at this time. Certainly, our combined and wholehearted cooperation is needed more than ever before, and I wish to call upon all Furman alumni to join me in demonstrating complete loyalty to the institution which continues to mean so much to us.

"We have the opportunity to help Furman become an even greater university . . . Our support, now, is vitally important to the future of Furman, and I know that all of us will want to help our school obtain the facilities it needs and attain the position it deserves. With our enthusiastic and generous assistance, it will."

As Alumni Association president, John Folsom was among those who turned a shovel at the groundbreaking for the new campus in October of 1953.

Folsoms have stellar history of commitment to Furman



Anita and John Folsom hear one of many tributes in recognition of their lives and works during the dedication ceremony for Folsom Commons.

After completing his term as president he and Anita remained in Greenville until 1960, when they moved to Columbia, S.C., where he served with distinction as chief executive officer of Home Federal Savings and Loan (later South Carolina Federal). He retired in 1988 but stayed on as the bank's chairman until it merged with First Union in 1993.

In 1979 John was recognized by *The South* magazine as one of the 12 most influential individuals in Columbia — and not just because of his business accomplishments. Active in civic and community causes, he is a lifelong Rotarian who has been president of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and chair of the Richland-Lexington Airport Commission. In addition, he has been an adjunct professor at the University of South Carolina and a member of the boards of the American Heart Association, Columbia College and a number of other organizations.

Through the years, the Folsoms have maintained a strong commitment to Furman. Their many contributions of time, talent and resources include the establishment of the John Roy Folsom and Anita Anderson Folsom Scholarship.

More recently, their names became a permanent part of the "new" campus. Thanks to their generous gift, the popular gathering area between Furman Hall and Johns Hall is now known as Folsom Commons.

Folsom Commons has been called the crossroads of the campus because so many students, faculty and staff pass through it each day on their way to classes, the dining hall, the University Center or the residence halls. With its beautiful design and landscaping, the area is a great place to socialize, study or take a quick nap in the midst of a busy day.

Folsom Commons was dedicated in February of this year. At the dedication, the Folsoms' son, John W. ("Johnnie"), spoke on behalf of the family and emphasized his parents' lifelong support and love for education — and specifically for Furman.

His sentiments echoed those his father had expressed 50 years before, when he stressed the essential role alumni can play in helping Furman "attain the position it deserves."

Clearly, John Roy Folsom meant what he said.

— **Bob Fuzy**
Director, Major Gifts

Hollingsworth Initiative yields strong response

When John D. Hollingsworth '39 made the decision to leave a large portion of his estate to Furman, he wanted others to join him in ensuring that students of future generations obtain the best possible education in the best possible environment. He never intended to "take care of Furman" so that donors could relax and become spectators. Instead, he wanted others to build upon his commitment.

Furman alumni, parents and friends are responding to the example set by the Greenville businessman by participating in the Hollingsworth Initiative, a program implemented July 1 by the Hollingsworth Funds, Inc., in collaboration with President David Shi and the Furman board of trustees. The step-up program makes it easier for university supporters to establish an endowment or to join higher level gift societies (for donors of \$1,000 and more) by offering the option of a three-year pledge augmented the first two years by the initiative.

For example, one can immediately become a member of the Presidents Club (giving level \$1,000) with a three-year pledge of \$500, \$750 and \$1,000. For the first two years, the Hollingsworth Initiative contributes the additional funds (\$500 and \$250, respectively) to complete the \$1,000 membership requirement. By the third year, the donor provides the full amount to qualify.

Through October 28, more than 50 supporters of Furman had taken advantage of the Hollingsworth Initiative to increase their commitment or to establish a new endowment.

John D. Hollingsworth had great dreams. He was a builder and a business leader whose emphasis on high standards was evident in his work and in his support of Furman and other institutions that he anticipated would move to greater levels of excellence. He would be pleased that Furman supporters are keeping his dream alive.

For information on the Hollingsworth Initiative, call Wayne King, director of annual giving, at 864-294-3474 or e-mail wayne.king@furman.edu. You may also use the envelope included with this issue of Furman to request a telephone call or visit.

Paladin Club looks to build on banner year

Coming off a record-setting year in 2003-04, in which more than 1,500 members combined to surpass \$1.1 million in donations to Furman for athletic scholarships, the Paladin Club has established even loftier goals for 2004-05: \$1.2 million and 1,550 members.

Doris Mansfield, Paladin Club president, says, "I have no doubt that we will reach these milestones because I know what Furman athletes mean to Greenville and the surrounding communities. Our kids need to be supported at the highest level. This is why our theme this year is 'Invest in Champions'."

Ken Pettus, director of athletic development at Furman, echoes Mansfield's words. "I think Invest in Champions is the most fitting theme we have had in years, considering the success our athletes have demonstrated both on the field and in the classroom," he says. "More and more, Paladin Club supporters realize that their donations are investments not just in Furman athletics, but in the lives of outstanding young people."

His optimism is based in large part on the success of several Paladin Club initiatives, among them the All-Sports Challenge. Now in its fourth year, the Challenge pits former Furman athletes against each other in a friendly competition to see which teams can raise the most money and have the highest giving percentage.

For example, Furman football players jumped from 19 percent to 42 percent participation thanks to the Challenge. The group's goal for

2004-05 is 50 percent. A key factor in the increase in contributions from football alumni is the Former Football Players Association, founded by Bruce Gheesling '82 and Hollis Barton '83.

And then there are the Purple Pounders, football alumni from the mid- to late-1950s. Under the leadership of Marvin Behlke '61, Paladin Club Volunteer of the Year for 2003-04, the Purple Pounders have raised enough funds to endow a full scholarship.

Two new challenges for 2004-05 provide extra incentives for Paladin Club donors. The Hollingsworth Initiative allows any donor to Furman, including Paladin Club members, to advance to a higher giving level by augmenting the first two years of a three-year pledge. For example, in support of a \$1,000 pledge, the Hollingsworth Initiative would pay \$500 the first year and \$250 the next, with the donor paying the full amount of the pledge in the third year.

In addition, an anonymous supporter has pledged \$100,000 toward baseball scholarships. Alumni and friends of Furman baseball have the unique opportunity to activate the pledge by matching the \$100,000.

A new campaign to endow an athletic scholarship for minority student-athletes is also in the works with the help of a committee of former athletes. The campaign is expected to begin before Christmas.

For information on Paladin Club programs, visit www.furmanpaladins.com and click on the Paladin Club link, e-mail ken.pettus@furman.edu, or call (864) 294-3469.

Living tribute program launched

Furman has developed a new initiative that offers donors a chance to make a commemorative gift to the university in the form of a living tribute.

The "Branch and Bench" program offers the opportunity to honor a professor, staff member or loved one by adopting or planting a tree or placing a bench in a special spot on the campus. Donations cover the cost of purchasing and maintaining the tree or bench, as well as a plaque in recognition of the individual being honored.

Small trees, such as crape myrtle, dogwood and Japanese maple, may be planted and named for a donation of \$1,000. Larger trees — tulip poplar, cherry, elm, maple, oak — may be

planted and named for a gift of \$1,600. Existing trees on most drives and walkways may also be named, depending on their size, for \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Benches, available in teak or concrete, will be placed and dedicated in recognition of gifts of \$1,500 to \$2,500. Existing benches may be named for gifts of \$1,500.

Lilli Ann Hall, director of the Branch and Bench program, will assist donors in choosing their commemorative gift and its campus location.

For more information, e-mail lilliann.hall@furman.edu, visit the Web at www.furman.edu/giving and click on the "Branches and Benches" link, or call Hall at (864) 294-2123.

Boys of Summer

Pitchers Danny Rueckel and Tom Mastny do not appear to have much in common, other than that they are both young Furman graduates who are working their way through professional baseball's minor league system.

One is a reliever; one is a starter. One is 6 feet tall, the other 6-6. One has successfully traversed the path to Triple-A, the last stop before the major leagues; one has just finished an outstanding season in Class A. One has a nasty curveball that nobody has been able to hit consistently; the other works the plate with the precision of a surgeon.

But Rueckel and Mastny certainly have one thing in common. They have overcome the obstacles of being largely overlooked and underappreciated in college, of not hearing their names called until the latter rounds of the major league draft, and of being identified with a level of college baseball that is not known for producing major league pitching prospects.

In other words, they have had to rely on their talent and their determination to get where they are.

"There's no question it's tougher coming from a smaller school like Furman," says Rueckel, the 6-foot, Triple-A reliever with the wicked curve. "The scouts don't know much about you and nobody is expecting much from you. You have to prove yourself every day, at every level."

Which hasn't been a problem for either player thus far. Rueckel, who graduated from Furman in 2002, was drafted in the 12th round by the Montreal Expos. He began his career with the organization's Vermont club before being promoted to Class A Savannah (Georgia) in 2003. He was bumped up to AA Harrisburg (Pennsylvania) at the beginning of 2004, then promoted to AAA Edmonton in August.

That's a fast track for even the most heralded of prospects. At Harrisburg, Rueckel posted a 6-5 record with a 2.08 earned run average and recorded eight saves in 42 appearances. He was also

Rueckel, Mastny emerging as big league pitching prospects

BY VINCE MOORE

selected for the Eastern League All-Star Game. And even though he moved up to AAA late in the season, he was still able to display his pitching mettle. He appeared in seven games and posted a 1-0 record with a 2.89 earned run average and 10 strikeouts.

Mastny, a 2003 Furman graduate, was drafted in the 11th round by the Toronto Blue Jays. He began his minor league career with the Blue Jays' Class A "short season" squad in Auburn, N.Y., and then spent all of 2004 with Class A Charleston (West Virginia). A starting pitcher at Charleston, he finished with a 10-3 record, a 2.17 ERA and an invitation to pitch in the South Atlantic League All-Star Game.

Of course, it all began for both of them at Furman. And while it appeared early on that Mastny would likely have a chance to pitch beyond the collegiate level, Rueckel's emergence as a major league pitching prospect came out of left field — or at least the infield.

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Rueckel pitched in high school in Dunwoody, Ga., and was actually recruited by the likes of Georgia, Tennessee, Clemson and Vanderbilt as a pitcher. But he didn't want to limit his playing time to the mound, so he accepted Furman's offer to play anywhere he wanted.

"I guess I was stubborn or hard-headed or whatever you want to call it," Rueckel says, "but I wanted to do more than pitch."

Rueckel started at shortstop for the Paladins the first game of his freshman year — and remained there throughout his four years. He hit .282 with 17 home runs and 118 RBI for his career, but the closest he got to the mound his first season and a half was to run across it on his way from shortstop to the dugout. Then fate intervened.

He was playing around at practice one day while a teammate, pitcher Tommy John III, was rehabbing from an injury.

When John decided to take a break from throwing, Rueckel told the catcher to set up and he would demonstrate how he pitched during his "glory days" in high school.

Rueckel might have been horsing around, but the guys were plenty impressed, especially with his curveball. In fact, John told his father — former major league standout Tommy John, who was the Paladins' pitching coach at the time — that he needed to take a look at Rueckel. The shortstop, he said, might well have the best pitching arm on the team.

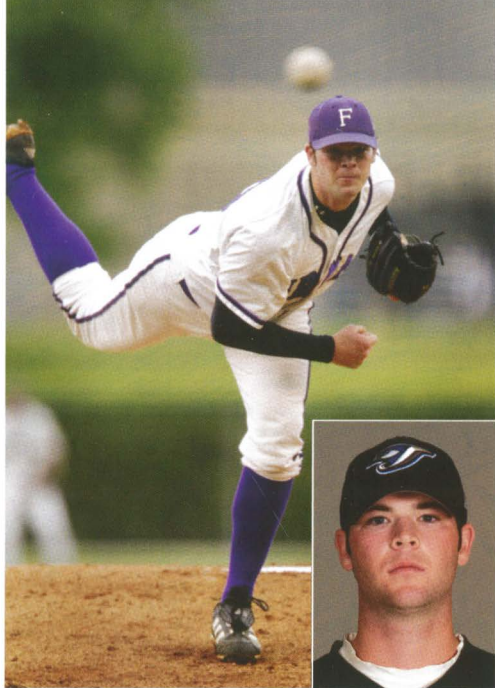
"Danny threw a couple of nice fastballs for me, and I wasn't surprised by that," says the elder John, now a coach in the New York Yankees' farm system. "I knew he had a strong arm because I'd seen him flat gun the ball to first base from deep, deep shortstop. I then asked him if he had a curveball."

Rueckel said yes, but added that he gripped the ball oddly and was afraid John might laugh at his technique. John told him it didn't matter as long as the ball spun and broke late.

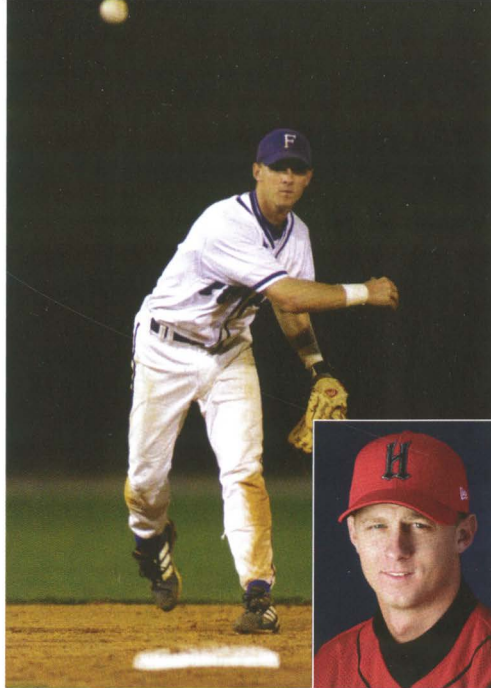
"I had never seen a grip like that — ever," Johns says. "But he threw it, and it spun really good and broke very late. It was definitely a pitch you could get people out with."

John went to head coach Ron Smith and asked him to watch Rueckel throw. To better make his point, he suggested that Smith step into the batter's box and watch Rueckel pitch from there. Unbeknownst to Smith, John had told Rueckel not to throw the curve until he signaled him.

"Ron watched a few fastballs, and you could tell he thought they were pretty good," John says. "Then I signaled for the curve, and the ball started right at Ron. He dove out of the batter's box and the ball broke right across the middle of the plate."



INSET: COURTESY CHARLESTON ALLEY CATS



INSET: CHRISTOPHER MILLETTE, HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS

Tom Mastny (far left) was a 2004 South Atlantic League All-Star; Danny Rueckel's strong arm helped make him an effective shortstop at Furman. (Game photos courtesy Furman sports information)

The point was made, and Rueckel got his chance to pitch late in his sophomore season. In a game at the College of Charleston, he was summoned to the mound with the bases loaded and nobody out. He retired three batters in a row, striking out two and enticing the other to pop up.

When he returned to the dugout, he says, "Everybody had a weird grin on their faces. They were looking at me like, 'What is Rueckel doing out there?'"

In the next two seasons, primarily as a reliever, Rueckel would post an 11-9 record with a 4.64 ERA. He continued to start every game at shortstop, but word about his wicked curveball began to spread beyond the Southern Conference. And while he never made the all-league team as either a shortstop or pitcher, the Montreal organization decided he was worth taking a chance on.

Mastny, on the other hand, didn't sneak up on anybody. For one thing, at 6-6 and 230 pounds, he cuts an imposing figure on the mound. For another, he worked his way into the starting rotation early in his freshman year — and stayed there.

Mastny's improvement each season was dramatic, and he had the kind of senior year in 2003 that most college players can only dream of. He was 11-2, with an NCAA-best 1.09 ERA, and helped the Paladins to a school-record 32 wins, including victories over North Carolina State, South Carolina and Clemson (twice). He was also among the nation's leaders in

innings pitched. He was named Southern Conference Player of the Year and became Furman's first baseball All-American.

Although his size would suggest he challenges hitters with a fastball in the mid- to high-90s, Mastny is actually an artist on the mound. His fastball usually hovers in the high 80s and he keeps it down to the hitters, which induces a lot of ground balls. He also keeps batters guessing with a variety of off-speed pitches.

"Tom was always the best pitcher on the mound, no matter who we were playing," Rueckel says of their Furman days. "He threw that sinker, and it was nothing for me to field five or six balls a game at shortstop. Ordinarily, you might get two balls a game hit to you."

Tommy John, who coached at Furman during Mastny's freshman year, agrees. "I told Tom that he would be good in college, but I said he would be even better in professional ball with that sinking action on his pitches," John says. "He had great movement on the ball and he was accurate, and there's no substitute for throwing strikes."

Mastny, a native of Zionsville, Ind., has been a dominating pitcher for both minor league teams he has played for, which led one Canadian baseball publication to wonder: "Among life's many mysteries is the question of how a 6-5, 220-lb. starter who led the entire NCAA in ERA (1.09) his senior year and struck out 103 batters in 124 innings could have hung around until the 11th round."

Rueckel says that Mastny probably didn't get a better look because he didn't light up the radar gun with his fastball. "That's all they care about in college," he says. "But once you're in professional ball, all they care about is whether you can get somebody out. And Tom has proven he can get people out."

Both players can hear the siren song of the major leagues, and Rueckel is as close as you can get. Scouts believe he has the best curveball in the Montreal (now Washington, D.C.) organization, and he has been told that he could get his chance in the big leagues next year if he maintains his high performance level.

"I wasn't sure the batters would still swing at my curve ball in Triple-A," says Rueckel, who, at 24, was the youngest player on the Edmonton team. "But I keep throwing it in the dirt and they keep swinging at it. So now I know I can get people out at this level. I just want to keep living out my dream and make it to the major leagues."

Mastny also expects to move up next year, either to high Class A or AA ball. "After talking to my manager after the season and hearing from the roving instructors, it would suggest they're pretty high on me," he says. "I just have to wait and see what happens. But with the two seasons I've had, I hope they've noticed me."

Stay tuned. Danny Rueckel and Tom Mastny could be coming soon to a major league park near you.

Furman alumni news

Help us stay in touch

One of the Alumni Office's major goals is to improve communication between Furman and its alumni. Over the last several years we have been working to find more and better ways to maintain contact with our alumni — and to ensure that they are in touch with the latest news about Furman. We are looking for ways to make the process easier and more effective in both directions.

The Furman Web site, www.furman.edu, is a wonderful source of help and information. When you visit the university on-line, you can do a little of everything — order a transcript, register for Homecoming, change your address, or consult the calendar of campus events to find out the latest happenings. We'd like our alumni to check the Web site weekly, or even daily. Please let anyone on the Alumni Office staff know what we can do to make that goal a reality.

At this time Furman has e-mail addresses for approximately 50 percent of our alumni, and we are constantly updating our e-mail list. You can help us out by sending your e-mail address to alumni@furman.edu. Once we have you in our system, you will receive Furman's monthly electronic newsletter, plus frequent announcements and reminders about upcoming Furman events in your area.

We are also working to tailor our messages to specific audiences. As an example, this year we were able to produce separate Homecoming brochures for each of our 12 reunion classes, plus a generic mailer for non-reunion alumni. Our hope was to make



the reunion classes feel more special and make the registration process less confusing.

Methods of communication are changing rapidly, and these days the most effective means of communication is different depending on your generation. For example, many young alumni use only their cell phones and do not have a "land line" — a trend that would have been unheard of just a few years ago.

With this in mind, we have associated with Youralumni.com, a program that will help us develop new features and opportunities that will enable alumni to exchange information and interact with each other and with Furman. Through this program, alumni will be able to maintain a full personal home page, with a photo gallery, blog forum, contact information and class-specific event notifications. This service, combined with our on-line registry, should help us provide alumni with better overall communication. To learn more, visit www.Youralumni.com.

— Tom Triplitt '76

Director, Alumni Association

Photo: The staff of the Alumni Office looks forward to hearing from you. Front, from left: Melanie Krone '94, Tom Triplitt '76, Tina Hayes Ballew '78. Back: Darlene Kleckley, Jane Dungan

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Furman Clubs enjoy busy fall

Furman Clubs cheered on the Paladins with record numbers this fall.

More than 150 people were on hand in Birmingham, Ala., September 11 for a tailgate before the Furman-Samford football game. Two weeks later, a large contingent of Paladin fans gathered in Pittsburgh for several events before the game with the Panthers.

Meanwhile, alumni, parents and friends in central North Carolina did double duty, enjoying a September 24 outing to watch the Lady Paladin soccer team face UNC-Greensboro and an October 23 tailgate before the football game at Elon.

Among other events, the Charlotte (N.C.) Club had the pleasure of meeting with A.V. Huff, Jr., vice president for academic affairs and dean emeritus, who led a tour of the Levine Museum and discussed Charlotte's transformation into the second largest banking center in the United States. The Knoxville (Tenn.) Furman Club welcomed John Barker, director of career services, who reminded everyone that the career services department is available to assist both students and alumni. He encouraged alumni to get involved with Furman through the Career Link program and by speaking with students and alumni about career and employment issues.

The Christmas holidays also brought club gatherings in Charleston, Greenville, Charlotte and Washington, D.C.

To learn more about Furman Club activities, visit www.furman.edu/alumni, or contact Melanie Krone '94 at 1-800-PURPLE3 or by e-mail, melanie.krone@furman.edu.

Furman legacies

You may have heard that a Furman alum's blood "runs purple." This could be attributed to enthusiastic school spirit, a rare blood type or a history of family members who have attended Furman.

Furman takes pride in knowing that many current students' parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings attended Furman. To recognize this connection, the Alumni Association began the year by hosting a drop-in for freshman legacies. More than 50 people attended, some recognizing each other from their days at Furman. Legacies also gathered for a lunch during Family Weekend in October.

This tradition will continue through graduation, when legacies and their families will attend a luncheon with President David Shi. If you or a member of your family is a Furman legacy and you would like more information about these events, please contact the Alumni Association at 1-800-PURPLE3 or by e-mail, tina.ballew@furman.edu.

CLASS NOTES FALL 04

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Next reunion in 2005

Dee Riles Bielecki has retired as professor of English at North Greenville College. She was the college's Commencement speaker in May, where she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters degree. She serves as a trustee of the Oconee County (S.C.) School Board.

56

Next reunion in 2006

Ronald Hyatt, a professor of exercise and sports science at the University of North Carolina, has been presented the Order of the Long-Leaf Pine for his leadership and dedication to the advancement of fitness. The award is the state of North Carolina's most prestigious award for service.

62

Next reunion in 2007

Bob Garrick, president of G&G Furniture, Inc., received the Small Business/Person of the Quarter Award for the second quarter of 2004 from the Orangeburg County (S.C.) Chamber of Commerce.

64

Next reunion in 2009

Florida Trend Magazine named **John P. Cardillo** one of the top 1.6 percent of the 55,000 lawyers practicing in the state. He was included in the "Civil Trial" category. ■ **Claire Winkler**, the driving force behind the creation of Sharonview Credit Union in an area of Greenville that had been without banking services, received the Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind Award for 2004.

66

Next reunion in 2006

Sandra Thomason Greer, professor of chemistry and chemical engineering at the University of Maryland, was awarded the 2004 Francis P. Garvan-John M. Olin Medal, which is presented annually to a woman chemist who has provided distinguished service to the field of chemistry. ■ Having retired after 28 years as a college English professor, **David Roberts** is now pastor of West Town United Methodist Church in Albany, Ga. His pastorate is the first cross-racial appointment in the South Georgia Conference of United Methodists, and his church is the only African-American United Methodist church in south Georgia.

67

Next reunion in 2007

Fred Lacey of Griffin, Ga., is the lead psychologist in Griffin/Spalding County schools. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Mercer University, is part-time minister of music for a Griffin church and is in private practice as a licensed professional counselor.

69

Next reunion in 2009

The board of trustees of the O'Neal School in Southern Pines, N.C., has named **John Neiswender** its next headmaster. He has been headmaster at the Pingry School in New Jersey since 2000. ■ **Nan Herring Scott** has retired after 31 years on the faculty of Oregon State University, where she was head academic advisor and senior instructor in the Department of Crop and Soil Science.

70

Next reunion in 2005

Ben Hawkins assumed duties June 7 as the dean of the Lundy Fetterman School of Business at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C. He was previously vice president of academic affairs and student life at Louisiana College.

71

Next reunion in 2006

Ralph Boroughs of Chattanooga, Tenn., is employed with the Tennessee Valley Authority as manager of research projects in power generation and alternative fueled reciprocating engines.

72

Next reunion in 2007

Fran Smith Ligler, senior scientist for biosensors and biomaterials at the Naval Research Laboratory's Center for Bio/Molecular Science and Engineering in Washington, D.C., was recipient of the 2003 Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Senior Professional. A former member of the Furman board of trustees, she is a pioneer in the development of ultra-sensitive antibody-based detection systems for detecting biological agents.

73

Next reunion in 2008

Thomas "Bo" Carter has been named chief executive officer of the Bank of Pensacola, a Synovus affiliate. He has been president of the Florida bank since 2001 and was previously chair, president and chief executive officer for First American Bank of Pensacola, N.A. ■ **Nancy Ponder Newman** of Southlake, Texas, is employed by SBC Services, Inc. ■ **Bruce**

Schoonmaker, professor of music at Furman, made his New York City debut in June as soloist in the Vaughan Williams piece *Five Mystical Songs* with the New York City Chamber Orchestra. He also sang for a peace service in St. Paul's Chapel at Ground Zero.

■ **John Weatherford** has been named senior vice president and general manager of Public Broadcasting Atlanta. In 2002 he was inducted into the prestigious Silver Circle by the Southeast Regional Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for his contributions to the broadcasting industry. He has earned six Emmys and 26 Tellys for broadcasting excellence.

75

Next reunion in 2005

MARRIAGE: **Jane Jordan** and **Richard Casavant, Jr.**, November 2003. Jane is the deputy general counsel/chief health counsel for Emory University in Atlanta. Richard is dean of the College of Business at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and also serves on the Hamilton County (Tenn.) Commission.

76

Next reunion in 2006

Dianne Benham Mitchell of Greer, S.C., has served as president of the Greenville County Swim Association Invitational League (SAIL) each of the past two years. SAIL consists of 37 teams and almost 3,500 young swimmers. ■ **Michael Williams**, professor of music and director of percussion studies at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C., was named the school's 2004 Distinguished Professor. The highest honor Winthrop bestows upon a faculty member,

Furman alumni news

CLASS NOTES FALL 04, cont.

the award recognizes superior skill in teaching, significant research or creative effort, high standing among professional colleagues and general service to the university. ■

ADOPTION: **Carolyn Ann Norris** and Roger Velasquez, a son, Alexander Norris Velasquez, November 10, 2003, Izmail, Ukraine. Ann is a reading recovery teacher in the San Diego (Calif.) School District and Roger is pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church.

77

Next reunion in 2007

Mike Gibbs of Simpsonville, S.C., is director of auxiliary enterprises at Greenville Technical College. ■ **Steve Wilson**, defensive coordinator for the Furman football team, has been named a charter member of the Northeast Georgia History Center's Sports Hall of Fame in his hometown of Gainesville.

79

Next reunion in 2009

Saks Incorporated has promoted **Doug DiPrima** of Birmingham, Ala., to the newly created post of executive vice president of merchandising for Parisian. Doug, who has been with Parisian since 1986, has been a senior vice president and held various merchandising positions. ■ **David Kissinger** lives in Riverside, Calif., and works as an information systems analyst and central security officer in the Office of Information Technology of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services. ■ **Bruce Lancaster** of Alpharetta, Ga., has been promoted to director of operations quality within the Wireless Division of Nortel Networks. He has been with Nortel for 20 years. ■ **Brenda Crain McClain** of Edisto Island, S.C., was chosen the 2005 South Carolina Arts Commission's Prose

Fellow and received \$2,000 in recognition of superior artistic merit. She was a finalist for the 2004 Reynolds Price Short Fiction Award.

80

Next reunion in 2005

Ellen Center Demetree has been elected to the board of trustees of Trinity Prep School in Winter Park, Fla. ■ After serving as department chair, division chair and associate dean at Chatham College in Pittsburgh, Pa., **Lisa Cain Lambert** has returned full time to the faculty of the school's biology department. ■ **Kevin Miller** has his own law firm in Spartanburg, S.C.

82

Next reunion in 2007

Brenda Kuhfuss (M.A.) was recently named Greenville County Schools Teacher of the Year. A special education teacher, she taught in Pickens County, S.C., for 22 years before moving to Greenville County seven years ago. ■ **Dale Williams** of Westfield, N.J., is director of business development with Watson Pharmaceuticals.

83

Next reunion in 2008

Wayne Blank has become the corporate compliance officer for MedQuest in Atlanta. MedQuest operates approximately 100 diagnostic imaging centers throughout the country. ■ **Vernon Dunbar** is managing shareholder with the recently opened Greenville office of Turner, Padgett, Graham & Laney PA. He practices in the areas of corporate and commercial business litigation, employment law and workers' compensation. ■ **Fred Lyda** is pastor of HopeWay Church in Simpsonville, S.C., a new congregation. He has pastored two other churches in the Greenville area. ■ **Zix Corporation**, a global provider of

secure e-messaging, e-prescribing and e-transaction applications and services based in Dallas, Texas, has named **Brent Sanders** vice president of sales for care delivery. He previously was vice president and chief business development officer for IntegriMED. ■ **Robert Spessard** of Alpharetta, Ga., is an executive vice president with Solarcom. ■ **Sherman Woodson** of Greenville is a health and safety consultant with Pinnacle Consulting Group.

84

Next reunion in 2009

G. Allen Barbee, a member of the music faculty of North Georgia College and State University, has been awarded an honorary Ph.D. in education from Suffolk University. He is music director of the newly formed Peachtree Symphonic Winds. ■ **Robyn Hood Black's** first children's book, *Sir Mike*, is scheduled to be released in the fall of 2005 as a Rookie Reader from Children's Press, a division of Scholastic. ■ **Sandra McAllister Winter** of Atlanta was appointed to the Georgia Board of Real Estate Appraisers by Gov. Sonny Perdue. She is a principal at Novogradac & Co., a public accounting firm. ■ The First National Bank of Spartanburg, S.C., has promoted **David Zabriskie** to executive vice president. He previously served as bank examiner under the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Office of Thrift Supervision. ■ **BIRTH:** **Ben and Michelle Wyman**, a daughter, Brenna Margaret, February 11. Ben is an assistant county attorney in Louisville, Ky.

85

Next reunion in 2005

Jeff Kuntz of Roebuck, S.C., is interim director of bands at Converse College. He is also director of bands at Gable Middle School, director of the

Dorman High School Jazz Ensemble, and jazz events chairman for the South Carolina Band Directors Association. ■ **Jean MacCallum** is the donor recruitment representative for the American Red Cross at Fort Jackson, S.C. She coordinates blood drives on post for South Carolina Blood Services. ■ **Elizabeth Schwab McGinnis** and her family now live in Moody, Ala., after returning to the States from Budapest, Hungary. She works with Church Resource Ministries. ■ **MARRIAGE:** **Sarah Adele Keller** and John Charles Monson, June 19. They live in Simpsonville, S.C.

2004-2005 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James H. Simkins, Jr. '78, president; Steven B. Smith '83, president elect; Harriet Arnold Wilburn '74, vice president; Pamela Underwood Thomason '76, past president; Rebecca Hood Becherer '89; Venita Tyus Billingslea '81; Randolph Williams Blackwell '63; J. Chris Brown '89; Rosalie Manly Burnett '49; H. Furman Cantrell '61; John R. Cassady '62; David S. Cobb '90; Allen Cothran '01; Catherine Hunter Hightower '55; Elizabeth Jean Howard '81; George L. Johnson '68; Vicki Bieksha Johnson '93; William A. Lampley '41; Charles W. Linder '59; Clare Folio Morris '83; Paul B. Nix, Jr. '77; James G. Revels, Jr. '62; Ginger Malone Sauls '75; David M. Schilli '85; Catherine Rakestraw Smith '92; Mickey A. Walker '55; Davin K. Welter '89.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: David E. Shi '73, president; Donald J. Lineback, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Jane Dungan, associate director of Alumni Association; Melanie Krone '94, associate director of Alumni Association; Matthew Miller '99, president, Young Alumni Council; Elizabeth Pelletier '05, president, Student Alumni Council; Benton Pitkanen '05, president, Association of Furman Students; Chase Samples '05, president, Senior Class.

86

Next reunion in 2006

Meryl Hammett Cook, former owner of PIP Printing on Mauldin Road in Greenville, joined PIP Printing and Document Services on Laurens Road as account executive when the two companies merged in July. ■ **Furman** football coach **Bobby Lamb**, a native of Commerce, Ga., has been named a charter member of the Northeast Georgia History Center's Sports Hall of Fame in Gainesville. ■ **MARRIAGE:** **Jean Margaret Smith** and Skip Card, April 24. They live in New York City where he is an outdoor writer and she is senior vice president of public affairs and administration at Nickelodeon, TV Land and Spike TV. ■ **BIRTH:** Thomas and **Cindy Davis Weathers**, a daughter, Holly Christine, July 30. Cindy is co-founder and director of marketing at Palmetto International Preparatory School in Greenville.

87

Next reunion in 2007

Christopher and **Jennifer Palmer** '89 **Brasher** live in Alpharetta, Ga. Jennifer is an actuary with Towers Perrin and Christopher is senior assistant attorney general for the State of Georgia. ■ **David Conrady**, formerly head basketball coach at Newberry (S.C.) College, is now an assistant coach at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. ■ **Susan Solomon Simmons** of Long Valley, N.J., is a flight attendant with Delta Air Lines. ■ **BIRTHS:** **Robert** and **Stacy Carr Oakley**, a daughter, Noelle Frances, January 22, Durham, N.C. ■ **Jeff** and **Becky Takac**, a son, Micah, July 5, Macon, Ga. Jeff is director of housing and residence life at Mercer University.

88

Next reunion in 2008

Patrick Burnette is a network engineer and deputy program manager for the SPAWAR Systems Center in Charleston, S.C. ■ The city of Greenville has appointed **John Castile** assistant city manager. He assists in day-to-day management of city operations, helps form policy recommendations and interacts with local organizations. ■ **Bret Clark** is an associate professor of biology at Newberry (S.C.) College. ■ **Scot Sherman**, a senior design associate with Robert C. Weed Design, Inc., in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., has been elected the newest associate member of the prestigious American Society of Golf Course Architects. His work on White Manor Country Club in Pennsylvania was chosen "Renovation of the Year" by *Golf Inc.* magazine. ■ **BIRTH:** **Tommy** and **Jen Brandt Little**, a son, Thomas Michael, Jr., August 5, Tampa, Fla.

89

Next reunion in 2009

Air Force major **Jay Burks** was named the Colorado Young Healthcare Executive of the Year by the American College of Healthcare Executives. He is the chief financial officer at the Air Force Academy Hospital and is active with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. ■ **Raymond Elder** has been called as pastor of Euhaw Baptist Church in Grahamville, S.C. Euhaw is one of the oldest churches in Jasper County, tracing its roots to the 1740s. ■ **Chris** and **Lynn Miller Holcombe** have moved to Brentwood, Tenn., where Chris works with the VF Corporation. ■ **Deborah Landan Spranger**, an attorney with Saul Ewing LLP in Harrisburg, Pa., and chair of the firm's technology transactions

and intellectual property group, recently participated in a Commercial Documents Series presented by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. ■ **Davin Welter** is now assistant director of corporate and foundation relations in the development office at the University of Georgia. ■ **BIRTHS:** Louis, Jr., and **Susan Middour Cooper**, a daughter, Dorothy Gracie-Ann, April 30, Neeses, S.C. ■ **Rob** and **Sandy Martinez Little**, a daughter, Gabrielle Daniela, March 18, Oviedo, Fla.

90

Next reunion in 2005

Jeff Browne of Gray, Ga., has started a civil engineering firm, Browne and Company, LLC. ■ *Learning the Code: A Method for Piano Study*, the first book by **James Lee King**, has been released on-line. Lee is executive director of the North Miami (Fla.) Conservatory of Music. ■ **Matt Puckett**, vice president with the Willis of South Carolina insurance firm, has been named to the Greenville advisory board of Carolina First Bank. ■ In May, **Jon Smith** received his Ph.D. in applied theology from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. ■ **ADOPTION:** **Chad** and **Tammy Fetzer**, a son, Jonathan, October 2003. They live in Ardmore, Okla. ■ **BIRTHS:** William and **Asheley Dillard Kotis**, a son, Alexander William, February 25, Greensboro, N.C. ■ **Dave** and **Kristen Boudreaux Maxfield**, a daughter, Juliette, May 6, Columbia, S.C. ■ Jason and **Elizabeth Ouzts Ouzts**, a daughter, Madeline Claire, November 25, 2003, Charlotte, N.C. Elizabeth is a systems developer and relationship manager with TIAA-CREF. ■ **Landon** and **Deanna Quattlebaum**, a son, Landon Yates, October 3, 2003, Greer, S.C.

91

Next reunion in 2006

Ralph Davis of Knoxville, Tenn., works for Scripps Networks helping manage and maintain the Web sites for Home & Garden Television, DIY (Do It Yourself Network) and Fine Living Network. ■ **James Downs** is vice president of retail development with Crosland, Inc., in Charlotte, N.C. ■ **Julia Frierson Freeman**, special projects manager for the Florida Association of Insurance Agents in West Palm Beach, recently edited "From Cartels to Competition: The Evolution of Insurance and the History of Florida's Independent Insurance Agent." ■ **Christine Judd O'Donnell** has become public relations manager for the Hillsborough Education Foundation in Tampa, Fla. She continues her involvement in international equestrian sports, serving as executive secretary for both the U.S. Saddle Seat Equitation World Cup and the International Saddle Seat Equitation Association. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Michael Bellon** and **Julia Katherine Eccles**, July 10, Columbia, S.C. ■ **Mark Everson** and **Sara Michaels**, June 5. They live in Farmington, N.M. ■ **BIRTHS:** **Evan** and **Shannon Brooks**, a son, Wyatt, October 17, 2003. They live in Denver, Colo., where Evan is a medical device consultant. ■ **Jonathan** and **Monica Webster Bolen Curd**, twins, a son, William Randolph, and a daughter, Isabelle Cosette, February 12. They live in Dallas, Texas. ■ **Patrick** and **Michelle Rossmiller Guckeen**, a daughter, Emily Rose, April 18, Coon Rapids, Minn. Michelle is a commercial loan operations project manager with U.S. Bank. ■ **Jack** and **Tricia Perkins Harrell**, a son, Troy Coley, June 2, Lawrenceville, Ga. ■ **Reed** and **Susan Hunt**, a daughter, Reagan Elizabeth,

Furman alumni news

CLASS NOTES FALL 04, cont.

July 24. Reed is production manager for Rotec North America in Asheville, N.C. ■ **Kevin and Jane Nolan McBride**, a son, Hunter Lawrence, February 8. Jane is director of the Life Center of the Greenville Hospital System. ■ **Mike and Angie McMahan Mitlehner**, a daughter, Jennifer Elise, April 16. Angie is a statistician with Intel Corporation in Portland, Ore. ■ **Matthew and Diane Russell Reilly**, a daughter, Samantha Ann, June 4, Dunwoody, Ga. ■ **Mark and Clay Sasser Timbes**, a daughter, Anna Clare, March 31, Columbia, S.C.

92

Next reunion in 2007

Michael Bell of Baltimore, Md., is an analyst with McNeil Technologies. ■ **Tommy and Katie Clerkin Benston** have moved to Charlotte, N.C., where he is director of marketing for Verian Technologies, a software company, and she is director of development for Goodwill Industries. ■ **Jason Ford**, an English teacher at Fort Mill (S.C.) High School, was named the York County District 4 Teacher of the Year. ■ **Robin and Clarissa Wright Fowler** are owners of Fowler & Grant Engineering, Inc., in Mauldin, S.C. ■ **Sandra Mack Scott** of Taylors, S.C., is a senior sales representative for Eli Lilly & Company. ■ **MARRIAGES: Jane Keith** and Geoffrey Wayne Fritts, March 27. She is a media specialist at Ford Elementary School and he is a chemical engineer with Milliken Chemicals. They live in Boiling Springs, S.C. ■ **Jill Wood** and Robert Jefferson, April 24. They live in Smyrna, Ga. ■ **BIRTHS: Steven** and Robyn Bryant, a daughter, Caroline, June 7, Houston, Texas. ■ **Christopher and Ellen Buettner**, a daughter, Sophia Marie, May 31, New York. ■ **Robert and Tiffannie Clifford**, a daughter, Anna

Grace, October 6, 2003, Charleston, S.C. ■ **Brad and Allison Cunfer Early**, a daughter, Sarah Jane, December 29, 2003, Boise, Idaho. ■ **John and Patty Velado Hermanson**, a daughter, Phoebe Jensen, May 14, Marshalltown, Iowa. ■ **Kurt and Lillie Leckey McPherson**, a daughter, Sophie Katherine, June 8, Tampa, Fla. ■ **Craig and Angie Morris**, a son, Judge Kincade, June 8. Craig is a partner in the Daniell, Upton, Perry & Morris law firm in Daphne, Ala. ■ **Scott and Carol Len Frist Portis**, a daughter, Crissa Armistead, February 24, Nashville, Tenn. ■ **Christopher and Char Rhoads**, a son, Conner Douglas, October 17, 2003. Christopher is an attorney with Rhoads & Rhoads, PSC, in Owensboro, Ky. ■ **Chris Hickey and Paige Snider**, a daughter, Stella Grace, July 4, Philadelphia. ■ **Tom and Hollie Sherman Vollmar**, a son, Noah Maxson, May 26, Greenville.

93

Next reunion in 2008

Jeff Eggen has been promoted to Asia Pacific regional manager for Ford Motor Company Export Operations. He is based in Bangkok. ■ **Patrick Brian Giles** of Alpharetta, Ga., has joined Needle & Rosenberg, an Atlanta-based law firm focusing on intellectual property law. He is a science advisor in the biotechnology practice group. ■ **Alfred Dwayne Jenkins** has joined the staff of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Orlando, Fla. Holder of an M.D. degree from the Medical University of South Carolina, he is a specialist in gynecological cancers. ■ **Scott Kesler** has become pastor of Red Mountain Church in Birmingham, Ala. ■ **Sherrie Altman Shaver** of Jackson, Tenn., is a teacher at Calvary Baptist Church Preschool. ■ **Tracey Tuberville** recently competed

in the first Graduate Student Symposium held by the University of Georgia Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, where she is studying for her Ph.D. She took second place (platform presentation) for her "Translocation as a conservation tool: Repatriation of gopher tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) to a formerly occupied site." She has also coordinated a National Parks survey of reptiles and amphibians in the Southeastern parks. ■ **MARRIAGE: Libbey Olsen** and Nathaniel Wade, June 11. She is pursuing a master's degree in counseling at Drake University and he is professor of psychology at Iowa State University. They live in Ames, Iowa. ■ **BIRTHS: Chapin and Anne Marie Williamson Frazee**, a son, Wyatt Fremont, May 13, Tallahassee, Fla. ■ **Alan and Suzanne Brewer Harmon**, a son, Daniel Brewer, March 21, Columbia, S.C. ■ **Tradd and Betsy Harter**, a son, Aidan Reeves, February 3, Watkinsville, Ga. ■ **Ivan and Sharon Satterfield '94 Pegram**, a son, Duncan Quinn, December 20, 2003, Los Alamos, N.M. ■ **Christian and Leann Hardison Roberson**, a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, February 19, Winder, Ga. ■ **Mark and Katherine Elgar Wisneski**, a daughter, Kate Frances, April 13, Marietta, Ga.

94

Next reunion in 2009

Jenny Howell Baldwin of Lawrenceville, Ga., is an instructor with YogaFit Training Systems Worldwide. ■ **John Denning II** has earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Louisiana State University and begun a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in neuropsychology in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation of Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, Md. ■ **Greg Haselden** was recently named controller at Erskine College

in Due West, S.C. ■ After three years as an English as a Foreign Language teacher in Shanghai, China, **Sarah Jarboe** now lives in Lexington, Ky. ■ **David Kelley**, director of music at Concordia Lutheran Church in Wilmington, Del., has been awarded the Choir Master (Ch.M.) certificate by the American Guild of Organists, the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. ■ **Chad Simmons** of Hoover, Ala., is a licensed financial planner with Primavera Financial Services. ■ **MARRIAGES: Alec Taylor Brown Davis** and Lisa Monique Byrd, July 17. They live in Greenville where they are employed by N&H Enterprises, Inc. ■ **Vera Elizabeth Woods** and Marshall Joseph Collins III, July 31. She is a counselor in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg (N.C.) Schools and he is a vice president at Acosta Sales and Marketing. ■ **BIRTHS: Jay and Wendy Jacks Caudill**, a daughter, Grace Napier, March 3. They live in Naples, Fla. Jay has formed his own law firm, Morrison and Caudill, P.L. ■ **Brian and Lori Green**, a son, Zachary Benjamin, July 27. Brian is in his fourth year of a radiology residency at the University of Missouri in Columbia. ■ **Boh and Millicent Weldon Ruffin**, a son, Boh Asad, September 2, 2003, Painted Post, N.Y. ■ **Mike and Leigh Gauthier Savage**, a daughter, Audrey Parker, July 30, Greenville. ■ **Robert and Ann Loner Weatherly**, a daughter, Madeline Celese, June 12, Marietta, Ga. Ann completed her M.B.A. degree at Kennebec State University in May. ■ **Elliott and Cynthia Merrill Wheeler**, a son, Jack Elliott, May 19, Parker, Colo.

95

Next reunion in 2005

Billy Yeargin Cothran III has joined the Spartanburg, S.C., Water System and Sanitary

Pet project *Schweitzer Fellowship supports Hallberg's work*

As a child, Rachel Hallberg found consolation during her parents' divorce by spending hours alone with her Welsh Corgi. She recalls how, in sharing her thoughts and fears with her pet, she was in turn reassured by its unconditional love.

Years later, while working in an orphanage in Romania with the International Children's Advocacy Network, Hallberg observed how a group of children who had been emotionally and physically abused because they were HIV positive suddenly developed feelings of confidence and security after adopting two stray dogs as their own.

Says Hallberg, a 2003 Furman graduate, "I've seen countless examples of ways that animals can offer friendship, trust, loyalty and joy in situations otherwise devoid of such emotions."

Over the summer, Hallberg, a graduate student at the Sargent College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at Boston University, was able to combine her vocational interest in occupational therapy with her love for animals and the outdoors thanks to the support of a prestigious Albert Schweitzer Fellowship. Each year, approximately 125 graduate students from a wide range of schools are named Schweitzer Fellows and receive funding to design and implement community service projects that address specific health needs.

Hallberg, who majored in health and exercise science at Furman, worked with Animals As Intermediaries, a non-profit organization in Concord, Mass., that encourages interaction between people with physical and psychological disabilities and the natural world. Working in nursing homes, adult day centers, a veteran's

hospital and a school for children with physical disabilities, she developed nature-based programs for individuals with limited access to the outdoors. She also conducted research into clinical evidence that could strengthen AAI's grant proposals, raised funds and prepared informational materials for AAI volunteers.

Hallberg worked with everything from dogs to chinchillas, hedgehogs, hermit crabs, worms, a praying mantis, eels and turtles. The idea, she says, was to bring entire "environments" to the areas she visited — for example, plants, rocks, sand, shells and water might be used to assemble a beach, along with related animals (like lobsters). Music, poetry and art helped set the mood and connect the participants to the environment. Other types of animals would also be brought in to interact directly with patients.

"I think animals possess a therapeutic value that is underappreciated in typical medical and educational settings," says Hallberg. "They often bring back memories of past pets to people who have memory impairments and of familiar experiences to people completely removed from their homes."

At Furman, Hallberg says her vocational plans were fueled in part by her volunteer efforts with the Heller Collegiate Educational Service Corps, where she worked with children and adults with disabilities. She adds, "I learned about occupational therapy through an internship with the Kidnetics pediatric therapy program of the Greenville Hospital System. When I taught swimming to a child with profound physical and cognitive disabilities for my motor development course, I knew I wanted to pursue pediatric OT and help



Rachel Hallberg with her friend Pete.

children with special needs develop skills for living."

Hallberg, who is from Greenville, N.C., is scheduled to receive her master's degree in May, then engage in two three-month clinical affiliations (in Atlanta and in Kinston, N.C.) before taking the national examination and becoming a licensed occupational therapist. As a Schweitzer "Fellow for Life," she will attend monthly meetings through April and participate in fellowship service days and public health symposia.

Ultimately, she hopes to train and match service/companion dogs for children with physical disabilities. She adds, "I would also love to work with a therapy dog to offer services for post-institutionalized children adopted from other countries."

— Jim Stewart

Sewer District as an engineering associate. ■ **Robyn Bennett Guy** of Cumming, Ga., is a quality assurance supervisor for T-Mobile in the software development department. ■ **Jeff Sexton** has been promoted to maintenance/overhauls manager with Lucite International and has been transferred to Beaumont, Texas. ■ **Joey and Kristen Patterson Skelton** live in Milwaukee, where she is a clinical pharmacist at St. Luke's Medical Center. He is a fellow in pediatric gastro-

enterology and nutrition at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and is conducting research in obesity genetics. ■ **Stephane Cline Thornton** of Lakewood, Colo., is an assistant program manager with the Mental Health Corporation of Denver, Inc. She manages case managers and provides therapy for the mentally ill. ■ **MARRIAGE: Derek Peter Van Veen** and Jennifer Lynn Wallace, July 17. Both work in Greenville, she as a legal recruiter at BCG Attorney Search and he as clinical director at The Laser

Center. ■ **BIRTHS: Dan and Anne Yaggy Bishop**, a daughter, Daniella Paige, October 9, 2003. They live in Sandwich, Mass.; she is an English teacher and he flies for the U.S. Coast Guard. ■ **Thom and Michelle Martin Burnett**, a daughter, Lucia Joy, May 12. They now live in Greenville. ■ **Bill and Christi Steffes Coverston**, a son, Ryan, May 11, 2003, Charlotte, N.C. Christi received her M.B.A. degree from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte and works with Bank of America as an operations project manager for the

transportation group. ■ **Chad and Ginna Lister**, a son, Cameron Smith Lister, May 23, Easley, S.C. Chad has become head basketball coach at North Greenville College. ■ **Matt and Amy McKibbin**, a son, Joshua Matthew, April 26, Tallahassee, Fla. Matt is an educational consultant at the University of Florida. ■ **Jeff and Suzanne Schwerin Meece**, a daughter, Heather Elizabeth, April 14, Greer, S.C. ■ **Jay and Cathie Zachar Rowzie**, a daughter, Sarah Katherine, May 5, South Riding, Va. ■ **Neil and Heather**

Travel opportunities for alumni

The first Alumni Association-sponsored Furman Ski Trip will be March 2-6, 2005, in Park City, Utah, home of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Besides having some of the best snow conditions in the country, Park City has great shops, dining and nightlife. Spend four nights at the Sundial Lodge and enjoy skiing, a sleigh ride dinner and much more. For information and costs, visit www.furman.edu/alumni and click on the Furman ski trip link, call 1-800-PURPLE3 (787-7533), or e-mail melanie.krone@furman.edu.

Then there's the chance to step back into the golden age of ocean travel aboard the beautiful *Queen Mary 2*. Furman and Converse College have joined forces to offer a cruise from Southampton, England, to New York City June 26-July 2, 2005. The schools have reserved 90 staterooms for the trip.

For packages and rate information (including one-way flight to London), visit <http://furman.travelasp.com> or call Piedmont Travel at (864) 232-6716 or 1-800-547-6877.

Dawkins '96 Stalker, a son, Colin Harrison, May 5, Marietta, Ga. Neil is district manager with Penton Media. ■ **Scott** and **Heather Summers**, a son, Carter Nolan, January 2, Greenville. Scott is a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service. ■ **Mark** and **Lori Kern Wittschen**, a daughter, Emma Grace, June 4, Orlando, Fla.

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Next reunion in 2006

Bonnie Baker, a medical student at the University of Rochester in New York, is in Uganda for the 2004-05 school year as one of the first recipients of a Fogarty-Ellison Fellowship in Global Health and Clinical Research. The fellowship is sponsored by the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health. Bonnie is conducting clinical research on tuberculosis and HIV. ■ **Bobby Black** participated in a four-week Bill and Opal Lamb Middle and High School Teacher Fellowship, which took place at the Washington, D.C. offices of C-SPAN. The program is for middle and high school teachers who have demonstrated creative use of C-SPAN in the classroom.

Bobby is a government and economics teacher at Mauldin (S.C.) High School. ■ **Simon Crowe** of Greenville frequently performs with the Upstate Shakespeare Festival and recently completed his first original screenplay. ■ "The Voiceless," an exhibit of photographs by **Ted Haddock**, was on display September 10-October 10 at Genema Gallery in Atlanta. The exhibit highlighted Ted's work with International Justice Mission (IJM), a Washington, D.C.-based human rights agency that fights abuse and oppression. Ted, who was profiled in the Fall 2002 issue of *Furman* magazine, is communications manager and photographer for IJM. ■ **Bon Secours St. Francis Health System** in Greenville has promoted **Maya Helz Herren** to director of planning for St. Francis. She previously worked for the Greenville Hospital System and at the United Way of Greenville County. ■ **Matt** and **Kelly Carmack '97 Pohl** live in Bentonville, Ark., where Kelly teaches special education in the Rogers Public Schools. Matt recently became head band director for Shiloh Christian School in Springdale. Kelly received her M.S.

degree in school counseling in June and Matt has begun work toward his master's degree in ministry at John Brown University. ■ **Joy Pistolis Rambo** is director of sales for Holiday Inn Express in Greenville. ■ **Angie Avard Turner** of Pelham, Ga., operates her own wholesale and retail company. ■ **Sarah Webb** graduated from Indiana University in April with a Ph.D. in chemistry. She lives in New York where she works as an editorial intern/science journalist with *Discover* magazine. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Paula Baxter** and **Philip Johnson, Jr.**, June 12. She is a pediatrician in Alabaster, Ala. ■ **Dan Lepori** and **Jen Freeman**, April 24. They live in Maywood, N.J. Dan is a contract administrator for Pearson Education and Jen teaches fourth grade and coaches track and cross country at Ho-Ho-Kus Public School. ■ **Dana Hess** and **Daryl Olson**, July 31. She has completed her Master of Divinity degree at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Mass., where she is coordinator of seminars. He is a student at Gordon-Conwell. ■ **James McCurry** and **Kendall**

Maginnis, August 2, 2003, Baton Rouge, La. They live in Savannah, Ga., where he is product manager and national sales specialist for Brasseler USA and she is an enrollment manager for the Savannah College of Art & Design. ■ **BIRTHS:** **David** and **Laura Carriere Axelson**, a daughter, Margaret Eva, January 19, Atlanta. ■ **Arthur** and **Margaret Ladson Barbee**, a daughter, Mary Margaret, January 30, Peachtree City, Ga. ■ **Randy** and **Alice Fry Shepley**, a son, Samuel Benjamin, October 18, 2003. Alice is a part-time lecturer in Spanish at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, and Randy is founding pastor of North Wilmington Community Church. ■ **Dave** and **Claire Narvaez Singletary**, a daughter, Elise Christine, January 6, Columbia, S.C. ■ **Allen** and **Laurie Blossom Tubbs**, a son, Matthew Allen, April 7, Atlanta. ■ **Rob** and **Britt Riedl Young**, a daughter, Calla Hala'i, June 18, Honolulu, Hawaii.

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Next reunion in 2007

Arthur Christy of Suffolk, Va., is a forensic scientist with the Commonwealth of Virginia. ■ **Amber Haselden Griffin** of Monroe, N.C., recently joined Bank of America as a Six Sigma Black Belt/Change Consultant for quality and productivity initiatives. In August, she completed her master's degree in project management from Western Carolina University. ■ **Brad Harmon** has enrolled in the Ph.D. program in counseling and student personnel services at the University of Georgia. While completing his studies, he is serving as doctoral intern of staff development and judicial programs for the Office of University Housing. ■ **Elizabeth Holt** has become a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil

Division, Commercial Litigation Branch, National Courts Section in Washington, D.C. She previously worked with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in Washington. ■ **Bart Petrini** graduated from medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and is remaining there for his radiology residency training. ■ **Alan Sanders** of Thomasville, Ga., is a dentist in private practice. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Heather Griffin** and Jerry Kanipe, April 3. They live in Inman, S.C. ■ **Caryn Livingston** and Geoff Gardner, May 3, 2003. They live in Atlanta. ■ **Bradd Parton** and Nikki Richardson, June 20. Bradd is orchestra director at Laurens (S.C.) District 55 High School and Nikki is associate director of admissions at Presbyterian College. ■ **BIRTHS:** **Drew** and **Sara Brown Fowler**, a son, Andrew Hugh, October 4, 2003, Charleston, S.C. Drew is a cardiology fellow at the Medical University of South Carolina. ■ **Clint** and **Lora Deakins Rogers**, a son, Benjamin Elisha, December 24, 2003, Powder Springs, Ga. ■ **Jamie** and **Christie Pees Thomas**, a son, Michael Howard, April 18, Lexington, S.C. ■ **Fayette** and **Lisa Benners Williams**, a son, Fayette Creed IV, December 16, 2003, Dallas, Texas.

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Next reunion in 2008

Jennifer Atkinson of Sugar Hill, Ga., class director of Georgia Gymnastics Academy, is in graduate school at Brenau University, studying for her teaching certificate in elementary education. ■ **Peyton Burke**, previously a senior account manager at the Leslie Agency in Greenville, has been promoted to account supervisor. ■ **Timothy Hill** earned his Ph.D. in political science from Ohio State University in June. ■ **Seth**

Howard lives in Tacoma, Wash., and works as regional director of the state's Democratic Party. ■ **Jeff Muehlhauser** of Dunwoody, Ga., is financial operations analyst for Home Depot, Inc. ■ **Bryant Phillips** and his wife, Kelley, have opened their own animal hospital in Travelers Rest, S.C. ■ **Seth Ramaley** of Greer, S.C., is a hydrogeologist with Arcadis. ■ **Chris Scharver** works in the sensory motor performance program at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. He is involved in research investigating stroke rehabilitation with robotics and virtual reality. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Jack Hayes** and Hala Harik, June 12, Washington, D.C. ■ **Austin Hood** and Sarah Murray, June 19. Austin is an insurance defense attorney with Brown and Brehmer in Columbia, S.C., and Sarah is a social worker with the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. ■ **BIRTHS:** **Burt** and **Kimber Small Arrington**, a daughter, Tate Marie, May 3, Decatur, Ga. Kimber is a Certified Public Accountant with Deloitte & Touche, L.L.P. ■ **Ryan** and **Heather Barton** '99 **Thompson**, a daughter, Eden Grace, May 6, Charleston, S.C. ■ **David** and **Jennifer Turner Weber**, a daughter, Lorelei Faith, May 29, Clearwater, Fla.

99

Next reunion in 2009

After finishing her internship, **Tara Byer** of Durham, N.C., has started a three-year dermatology residency at the University of North Carolina. ■ **Stacy Schorr Chandler** and her husband, Geoffrey, have moved to Tokyo where she is assistant Pacific editor for *Stars and Stripes*, the daily newspaper distributed overseas for the U.S. military community. ■ **Sarah Hazan DeBra** is working in environmental research in Tampa, Fla. ■ **Heather Lorraine**

Kleckley has earned her M.B.A. degree from the Darla Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. ■

Jenny Oster is preventive program coordinator in WorkWell Occupational Health Services at Bon Secours St. Francis Health System in Greenville. ■

Jeff Russell is regional sales manager with CTI Group Adventures in Asheville, N.C. ■

Brooke Sprouse completed her master's degree in geology at the University of Florida and is working as a field scientist with CBM Environmental Services in Charlotte, N.C. ■ **Jeff Wadley** of Longwood, Fla., is an investor relations specialist with the Aurelius Consulting Group. ■

Christina Marie Wilson graduated *cum laude* from Fordham University School of Law this summer and works for Shearman & Sterling in New York City as a first-year associate. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Nathalie Bell** and Michael Lankford, June 12. They live in Charlotte, N.C. She is administration coordinator for Hunton & Williams LLP and he is the district sales manager for Corning Cable Systems. ■ **Geoffrey Henderson** and Amy Nance, June 26. She is a first grade teacher and he is in his last year at Reformed Theological Seminary. They live in Winter Springs, Fla. ■

Stephen Long and **Deborah Regan** '00, August 7. He is a graduate student at the University of North Carolina and she is a consultant with Cohesive Communications. ■

David Miller and Gloria Liu Sosa, June 11. They live in Charlotte, N.C. ■ **Peter Mueller** and **Anna Mitchell** '02, July 3. They live in Mauldin, S.C., where he is a teacher and coach at Mauldin High School. ■

Kevin O'Brien and Monica Begley, May 15. They live in Raleigh, N.C. ■ **Holly Routh** and Jason Nitzsche, May 22. They live in Atlanta. ■ **Dana Schwartz** and Patti Smith, February 7. They live in

Beaverton, Ore., and he works as a senior process engineer with Intel. He also defended his Ph.D. thesis in inorganic chemistry in March. ■

Margaret Slowikowski and Ben Smith, May 15. They live in Hixson, Tenn. She works in the human resources department of Medical Management Professionals, Inc., and he has finished his fourth year at the University of Tennessee Medical School and started his transitional residency year. ■

Parker Smith and Meredith Buckner, April 17. She is a speech language pathologist in Charleston County (S.C.) Schools and he is a corporate sales executive with Datastream Systems. ■ **BIRTHS:** **Everette** and **Jenny Seabrook Newland**, a son, Garrett Wayne, May 4, Denton, Texas. ■

Jeff and **Heather Pearch Phillips**, a son, Caden Drake, November 12, 2003. They live in Gastonia, N.C. ■ **Jonathan** and **Mary Beth Mitchell Richerson**, a daughter, Emily Grace, March 29, Louisville, Ky. Mary Beth is a teacher in the Shelby County Schools. ■ **John, Jr.**, and **Melanie Carter Spatig**, a daughter, Martha Grace, July 4, Vilseck, Germany.

00

Next reunion in 2005

Shannon Gullett Blackburn of Salt Lake City, Utah, is a medical resident in psychiatry at the University of Utah. ■

Chris Colvin, who has been athletics administrator for facilities and game operations at Furman for four years, has been named assistant athletics director for operations. ■ **Reid Hawkins** is a self-employed graphic designer in New York. ■

Brink Hinson, a third-year law student at the University of South Carolina, was an intern with Gallivan, White & Boyd in Greenville this summer, working in the areas of commercial litigation and professional negligence. ■ **Kelly Robinson Jowers** of

Tucker, Ga., works in institutional advancement at Emory University. ■ **K.C. Petillo**, who is attending Albany (N.Y.) Law School, worked this summer as an associate with Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP in New York City. ■ **Kristin Rakness Riddle** is an employment tax consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in Atlanta. ■ **Lanier Swann** is a speechwriter for North Carolina senator Elizabeth Dole. Before moving to the Senate, she worked as communications director for a U.S. Congressman. ■ **MARRIAGES: Melissa Anderson** and Scott Ostendorf, April 17. They live in Minneapolis, Minn., where she is a cardio metabolic sales specialist with Novartis Pharmaceuticals. ■ **Lindsay Austin** and Ryan MacDonald, March 27, Atlanta. ■ **Julie Elaine Brockman** and Andrew Thomas Smart, June 12. She is a first grade teacher at Plain Elementary School and he is president of Duke Sandwich Company in Greenville. ■ **Ginny Carroll** and Thomas Herrick, June 12. They live in Knoxville, Tenn. ■ **Martha Davis** and **Bradley King**, May 15. They live in Chapel Hill, N.C. ■ **Katherine Elizabeth Gamble** and Ewing Clarke Russell, May 22. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where she works for Keller Williams Realty. ■ **Elizabeth Head** and Mark Lamback, July 10. Both are on the faculty of Holy Innocents' Episcopal School in Atlanta. ■ **Matthew Paul Head** and **Caroline Wylls Taylor**, August 14. They live in Greenville. ■ **David Hoblick** and Jami Christina Baird, June 19. They live in Los Angeles and both work at the L.A. Film School. ■ **Catherine Hunter** and Shane Frederick, April 24, Charleston, S.C. She graduated from the Medical University of South Carolina in May. Both are in residencies at the University of Louisville (Kentucky), she in

OB/GYN and he in emergency medicine. ■ **Larry Kerns, Jr.**, and Tamiah Butler, April 24. ■ **Stephen Craig Martin** and Eden Bethea Kellett, July 24. He is an attorney at Jackson Lewis LLP in Greenville and she is a physical therapist. ■ **Gil McSwain** and Anna Geraldson, June 12. They live in Bradenton, Fla., where he is an employee leasing consultant with Moore Employer Solutions. ■ **Emily Smith** and **Michael White**, April 24. They live in Durham, N.C. ■ **Allison Stack** and Patrick Nugent, June 26. They live in Alexandria, Va. ■ **BIRTHS: Mathew and Brooke Bell Bair**, a son, Landon Mathew, September 3, 2003. Mathew is a sixth grade teacher at North Side Middle School in Anderson, Ind., and Brooke is a customer relationship manager for Healthx in Indianapolis. ■ **Chris and Bethany Barnette Hansz**, a son, William Harwood, March 16, Greenville. ■ **James and Candace Cuddy Williams**, a son, Camden Michael, July 3. James is in dental school at the University of Florida in Gainesville, where Candace earned her master's degree in physical therapy.

01

Next reunion in 2006

Nicole Baugh, who majored in music at Furman, has earned an undergraduate degree in physics from Augusta (Ga.) State University. She is now working toward a Ph.D. in lunar and planetary science at the University of Arizona, where she was awarded a fellowship. ■ Having been selected to participate in the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, **Mara Davis** (M.A. '02) is spending this year as an assistant language teacher in Gokasho Town, Shiga. The JET Program invites young college graduates to Japan to teach English in schools or to engage in

international exchange activities. ■ **Shane Golden** of Birmingham, Ala., received a Master of Science degree in forensic sciences from the University of Alabama. He works with the Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in the Implied Consent Unit. ■ **Ryan Smith** was scheduled to graduate with high honors from the Dallas (Texas) Theological Seminary this summer with a Master of Arts degree in biblical studies. ■ **MARRIAGES: Kathryn Connors** and **William Johnson**, July 26, 2003. They live in Charlotte, N.C. ■ **Kelly Dockter** and **Mark Higgins**, April 24. They live in Alpharetta, Ga. ■ **Brandon Christian Drafts** and **Katherine Michelle Fey** '02, July 2. She is a financial center manager with Wachovia and he is enrolled in the M.D. program at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. ■ **Christopher Helps** and **Stacey Restrepo**, May 30. Both attend Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where Stacey is in medical school and Chris is pursuing a master's degree in marine biology and coastal zone management. ■ **Kylie Inman** and **Brian Holladay** '03, May 14. They live in Durham, N.C., where both attend Duke University School of Law. ■ **Kendra Johnson** and **Wayne Dennis**, August 2003. They live in Greenville where they work for Milliken & Company. ■ **John Alexander Miller** and **Elizabeth Anne Sarratt** '03, July 24. She is a music teacher in Greenville and he attends Greenville Theological Seminary. ■ **Catherine Moran** and **Jimmy Ashley**, June 26. Catherine is a fourth grade teacher in Greenville and Jimmy works in the Cardiac Catheterization Lab at Greenville Memorial Hospital. ■ **Morgan Piper Morehead** and **Chad Ramon Hodson**, June 12. They live in Maryville, Tenn., where he is a fitness

coordinator for Blount Memorial Wellness Center and she is a graduate gemologist with Bristol and Bragg. ■ **Chris Phillips** and **Katherine Davis**, June 25. Chris attends the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, with plans to pursue an internal medicine residency. Katherine works in children's ministry programs at Shandon Baptist Church in Columbia. ■ **Ashleigh Smith** and **Preston Powers**, September 27, 2003. Ashleigh completed her Master of Arts degree in political science at the University of North Carolina and is now teaching at the university and working on her doctoral dissertation in political psychology. ■ **Joshua Vann** and **Tracy Thompson** '02. They live in Rock Hill, S.C., where he is employed by Morton & Gettys. She attends Wake Forest School of Law. ■ **BIRTH: Lukas** and **Heike Kamieniecki**, a son, Luca, May 7. They live in Greer, S.C. Lukas is training director for United Healthcare.

02

Next reunion in 2007

Megan Dunigan received her master's degree in computer science from the University of North Carolina in May and accepted a job in Raleigh, N.C., as management analyst with BearingPoint Inc., a worldwide consulting company. ■ **Beth Grabenkort** teaches seventh grade English at Perimeter Christian School in Duluth, Ga., and also works part time as a disc jockey for a radio station in Atlanta. She recently sold her first manuscript to a publishing company and expects her book to be available in December. ■ After teaching fifth grade in Sumter, S.C., for a year, **Elizabeth Ingram** enrolled at the University of Memphis in Tennessee and is a second-year doctoral student in school psychology. ■ **Erin Lyttle** is an associate legislative research

analyst with the state of Tennessee's Offices of Research and Education Accountability in Nashville. ■ **Hilary Shank** is studying for a master's degree in early childhood special education at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. ■ **Lauren White Steele** of Arlington, Va., is a production coordinator at The Discovery Channel. ■ **Jessica Sumner** is working on a master's degree in physical therapy at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C. ■ **MARRIAGES: Ryan McDowell Caulder** (M.A.) and Katherine DeLesline Mims, July 17. Ryan is in training at the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Va., before entering the flight training program at Pensacola, Fla. ■ **Crady deGolian** and **Betsy Holcombe**, June 12. She is a social studies teacher; he is enrolled at the Patterson School for Diplomacy and International Commerce at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. ■ **Joscelyn Fletcher** and **Bobby Cox**, May 29. He is a first lieutenant with the U.S. Army's Ranger Regiment and has been deployed to the Middle East. They are based in Fort Lewis, Wash. ■ **Leigh Dana Foster** and **Kyle Philip Young**, March 13. They live in Charlotte, N.C. ■ **Joshua Patterson** and **Natalie Wright**, June 5. He teaches at Fairforest Middle School and she works for Upward Unlimited, a children's sports ministry, in Spartanburg, S.C. ■ **Rodney Douglas Webb** and **Jody Burkett James** '03, June 19. He is a student at Widener University School of Law. They live in Wilmington, Del.

03

Next reunion in 2008

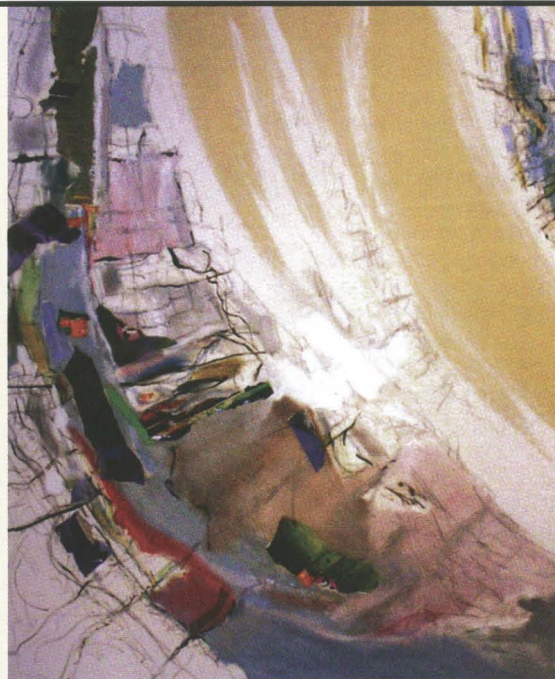
Chad Bennett of Beverly Hills, Calif., recently joined Reveille, a television development company. ■ **James Samuel Goodlet III** has enrolled at Columbia Theological

Seminary in Decatur, Ga., and completed a summer course in biblical Greek. ■ **Will Greyard** is a student at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. ■ **Leslie Leung** has completed a master's degree at the University of Michigan and moved to New York. ■ **Kristie McWilliams** is a graduate student in therapeutic recreation at Clemson University. ■ **J. Anthony Murrell** has been named equal employment opportunity officer for Sloan Construction Company in Greenville. He previously worked in the company's human resources department. ■ **Alexis Nichols** won the 2004 Kryolan Make-up Design Award presented by the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology. Her winning project, in which she developed an idealized photographic portrait of a male and a female student using computer morphing techniques, was based on research conducted at Furman with theatre instructor Kathleen Gossman. ■ **MARRIAGES: Leigh Carin Brandenburg** and **Seth Taylor Bruce**, August 14. She is salon coordinator at Wisteria Salon Spa in Greenville and he is a sales representative at Piedmont Wine. ■ **Kelly Samantha Hall** (M.A.) and **James Clinton Nalley**, June 5. She teaches at Mauldin (S.C.) High School and he works for the Fountain Inn Recreation Department. ■ **Elisabeth Moore** and **Jeremy Uecker**, July 31. They live in Austin, Texas, where Jeremy has enrolled in the graduate program in sociology at the University of Texas.

04

Next reunion in 2009

Carmen Band is a medical physics student at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. ■ **Meg Freeborn**, **Carl Johnson**, **Jason Peterson** and **Rick Schoonmaker** were selected to participate in the Japan Exchange and Teaching



R. THOMAS HOLDER, MAELSTROM 4 (AFTER KESSLER)

Linking physics and art

I just read John Roberts' article in the summer issue, "Mond Game," regarding the contributions of Furman's Bill Baker and Wade Shepherd to the dark matter controversy, and I share their suspicion that dark matter may not exist.

I'm not a scientist; I'm an artist. I graduated from Furman in 1964 with a B.A. and taught art for 25 years. Since retiring in 1992, I have been painting regularly, but if I had known in the '60s that astrophysics can be so exciting, I might have pursued a B.S. instead. Now I attempt to combine my interest in physics and cosmology with my painting. My most recent paintings employ a spiraling motif that utilizes the world line — or path — of the earth through space.

I don't have the background to differentiate between reality and the absurd, but there may be a little truth in my illusion that dark matter doesn't exist and that atomic boundaries are set by heavenly motion. When I hear of a physicist who reaches similar conclusions, I get excited. Hearing that the physicists are at Furman is doubly exciting.

— **R. Thomas Holder '64**
Westminster, Md.

"Views Through the Vortex," an exhibit of Holder's work, was on display September 12-October 22 at Carroll Community College in Westminster. For more of his work, visit <http://homepage.mac.com/stageleft> and click on the link to his paintings.

CLASS NOTES FALL 04, cont.

(JET) Program. They are spending this year as language teachers in Chikushino City, Toyama, Amino-cho and Chinzei, respectively. The JET Program invites young college graduates to Japan to teach English in schools or to engage in international exchange activities. ■ **Latoya Mitchell** has begun graduate study in microbiology at Wake Forest Medical School in Winston-Salem, N.C. ■ **Franklin "Trey" Warren III** has joined Professional Mortgage Company in Greenville as a loan portfolio analyst. ■ **MARRIAGES:** **Richard Justin Krieg** and **Kathryn Martin**, July 31. Both are in graduate school at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. ■ **Sean McCann** and **Lindsey Wall**, July 24. They live in Charlotte, N.C. Lindsey is a records technician with Kilpatrick Stockton.

DEATHS

Thelma Ruth McKee McGrath '25, May 28, Due West, S.C. She taught Latin and English for 39 years in the South Carolina counties of Greenville, Charleston and McCormick. She was a church pianist for 53 years.

Ellen Langston Shirer '27, June 30, Lone Star, S.C. She was a longtime teacher.

Josiah Hartwell Dew '29, July 27, Greenville. He was a cotton and produce merchant in Lake City, S.C., for 40 years, and was a trustee of Furman, the Baptist Foundation and the Connie Maxwell Children's Home. He was honored with the Paul Harris Rotary Award and, with his wife, received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor.

Elisabeth Frances Moon Tripp '29, June 4, Greenville. She taught in Greenville County

schools for more than 50 years, 29 of them at Greenville High as a science teacher.

Annie Louise Smith '31, June 11, Simpsonville, S.C. She was a teacher with the Greenville County School System for 44 years, followed by seven years as a substitute teacher.

Robert Andrew Brown, Jr. '32, June 2, Taylors, S.C. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict. After retiring from military service, he practiced medicine in Greenville as a general practitioner and later as an ophthalmologist, specializing in cataract surgery. He was a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and a member of the American Medical Association, American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, South Carolina Medical Society and Greenville Rotary Club.

Robert S. Tiedeman '33, August 14, Greenville. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and a high school teacher in several South Carolina school systems. He was a 66-year member of the Greenville Lions Club and a member of the Gray Court Schroder Masonic Lodge # 144. He served on the board of the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club.

Grace Meadors Willard '34, August 18, Spartanburg, S.C. She retired from teaching in Greenville and Spartanburg District 7 schools after more than 30 years of service.

James Franklin Mitchell '35, June 9, Spartanburg, S.C. An emeritus Southern Baptist missionary, he was appointed by the International Mission Board in 1943 and served almost 37 years in Chile as a general evangelist and secondary school teacher.

Sue Kern Smith '35, August 15, Charlotte, N.C.

William J. Stephenson '35, July 16, Vero Beach, Fla. He pastored Baptist churches in Kentucky, South Carolina, North Carolina and Madison, Ind., and was emeritus pastor of First Baptist Church of Barefoot Bay, Fla. He also was a middle school teacher for 11 years.

Anne Jake Morgan Graham '37, June 1, Greenville. She was director of food services for the Greenville County School District for many years, retiring in 1969.

David Greene Anderson '38, July 22, Easley, S.C. He preached in more than 120 churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and in three missionary crusades (Alaska, Japan and the Philippines). He served the South Carolina Baptist Convention in several capacities, including two terms as convention president. He served two-year terms as a trustee of Anderson Junior College, Baptist College of Charleston (now Charleston Southern University) and the South Carolina Baptist Hospital, and for 12 years was a trustee of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a member and past secretary of the board of directors of the Charleston County (S.C.) Red Cross. He received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Charleston Southern and was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the state of South Carolina.

Virginia McKinney Berry Tibbetts '38, July 12, Marietta, Ga.

James E. Caskey '39, August 7, Lancaster, S.C. A certified professional meteorologist, he served as a weather officer in the Army Air Corps during World War II. After the war

he was a reserve officer with the U.S. Air Force on a meteorological research assignment. After retiring from the Air Force Reserve, he worked for the U.S. Weather Bureau and also served as editor of the *Monthly Weather Review*. He later taught mathematics and physics at Furman, was director of the Environmental Science Information Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and retired from the American Meteorological Society. He was a member of the American Meteorological Society, the American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Edward Benjamin Clayton, Sr. '39, July 16, Fletcher, N.C. He was a retired school principal and served in the Army Air Corps.

James W. Crumpton '39, July 22, Dallas, Texas. He was a Baptist pastor for more than 57 years and was producer of the Radio Revival Hour for 22 years. He established the Maranatha Baptist Mission in 1961, serving as its president until his retirement. He received an honorary doctorate from Garland (Texas) Bible College.

Joseph A. de Francesco '39, July 26, Columbus, Ohio. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the French army as part of the Allied Forces. He went on to serve with both the Free French and United States armies until, in 1943, he joined the Office of Strategic Services and was selected for the secret Jedburgh operation to train for parachuting into France at the time of the Normandy invasions. For his efforts, he received the Bronze Star from the United States and the *Croix de Guerre* from the government of France. When a contingent of surviving Jedburghs returned to

France to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-Day, he was awarded the French Legion of Honor. After the war, he pursued an international career in the shoe industry. On behalf of Rotary International's Youth Exchange Program, he was named a Paul Harris Fellow, the organization's highest honor. He received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Furman in 1999.

Eugene E. Humphries '40, June 10, Charlotte, N.C. He was employed by Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph before joining Johnson Motor Lines in 1951, from which he retired as executive vice president. After retirement he became a consultant for several transportation companies in the East and Midwest. In 1964 he was appointed by President Lyndon Johnson to the National Export-Import Council, on which he served for 11 years.

Hazel Juanita Long Smith '41, May 30, Deerfield, N.C. She was a teacher and was recognized as an amateur artist, interior decorator and gardener.

Frances Haddon '42, June 16, Easley, S.C. She served as director of religious education at churches in Alexandria, Va., and Anderson, S.C., and was a teacher and houseparent in South Carolina and Virginia schools.

Carolyn Truesdale Carmichael '43, June 4, Charlotte, N.C. She worked as a receptionist at Palmer's Optometrist and in the offices of Sears and Ford Motor Company. At the time of her death, she was a volunteer participant in a heart research project.

Charles Pershing McMillon '43, July 28, Tonganoxie, Kan. He worked as an instructor with the 56th Army Air Force's flying training detachment and was inducted into the U.S. Air

Corps enlisted reserve, from which he was discharged in 1945. He joined Transcontinental and Western Air (TWA), with which he worked for 36 years before retiring in 1980. He was a master electrician, hunter, mechanic and builder and won several championship trophies in trapshooting. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Order of Eastern Star.

Mason Williams Boyd '45, August 17, Rock Hill, S.C. He served in the Armed Forces, where he was pianist for the Headquarters Western Base Band in England. After military service, he managed the Elks Club in Rock Hill and worked in real estate.

William Maxwell MacKenzie, Jr. '47, July 9, Highlands, N.C. He was a retired Navy commander and also a retired attorney from a firm in Clearwater, Fla., of which he was a founding partner. He served on the Board of Governors for the Florida Bar Association, was a Fellow of the American College of Probate Council and served on many state and national judicial committees. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner and a life member of the Tarpon Springs, Fla., Elks Lodge.

Florence Elisabeth Umbach '47, July 19, Laurens County, S.C.

Edgar Lafell Campbell, Sr. '48, November 23, 2003, Jackson, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II and retired from DuPont's SRL Computer Division in Aiken, S.C., after 31 years of service.

Dortha Lucille Clark Turner Fulmer '48, May 28, Florence, S.C. She was organizer and coordinator of the Shelby (N.C.) School of Practical Nursing and later taught at McLeod Infirmary School of Nursing in Florence. She developed and coordinated the

Florence Practical Nursing Program, served as tuberculosis nurse for the Florence County Health Department and was later promoted to Maternal-Child Care Program Specialist with the Pee Dee District of the South Carolina State Health Department, from which she retired in 1983. She also served as interim director of nursing on the Bethea Baptist Home infirmary staff. In 1988 she was named Master Gardener by Clemson University.

Robert Royall Jay '48, July 5, Greenwood, S.C. After service as an infantryman with the U.S. Army during World War II, he owned and operated Jay's House of Fabrics.

Eugene Elmer Hance '49, August 6, Union, S.C. He was a veteran of World War II.

William Robert Wade '49, June 23, Phoenix, Ariz. He was a structural engineer in Greenville and Myrtle Beach, S.C. In 1997 he was inducted into the Carolinas Boxing Hall of Fame.

Louie Morrison Owens '50, June 1, Greenville. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of World War II and was retired from Metal Fabricators.

William Marshall Batson '51, July 1, Ellicott City, Md. He worked for Liberty Life Insurance Co. in Greenville until joining United States Fidelity & Guaranty Co. (USF&G) in Baltimore in 1967. He was head of USF&G's group insurance department at the time of his retirement in 1992.

Shirley Patton Jasonek '51, September 6, 2003, Henderson, Nev. She was employed as a teacher and administrator with the Baker County (Fla.) School System for 35 years.

Carl Henry Raines '51, August 1, Easley, S.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II

CLASS NOTES POLICY

Because of the large number of submissions and clippings Furman receives for the magazine's class notes section and the time needed to review, compile and edit so much information, news items frequently are not published until five or six months after they are submitted.

Furman magazine does not publish dated items (anything more than 18 months old at time of publication) or engagement announcements. Birth and marriage announcements for alumni couples who graduated in different years are included under the earliest graduation date (except if requested otherwise); they are not listed under both classes. We ask that you include your spouse's or child's name and the date and city where the birth or marriage occurred.

Send news to the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613, or e-mail to alumni@furman.edu. Selected information submitted to the on-line registry at www.furman.edu/alumni/adirectories.htm is included in class notes.

and recipient of a Purple Heart and a Silver Star. He was pastor of a number of Baptist churches in South Carolina.

Russell Fitts '52, March 9, Lawndale, N.C. He was a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Army during World War II. For more than 50 years, he pastored Baptist churches in Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina. He was pastor emeritus of Zion Baptist Church in Shelby, N.C., at the time of his death.

Jeanne Mason McKinley '52, July 18, Memphis, Tenn. She was a teacher for 32 years and a former church youth director.

CLASS NOTES FALL 04, cont.

Horace Carlisle Bearden '55, August 10, Pelzer, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne division and received several commendations. He taught piano and was a church pianist and organist for many years. He retired from Greenville Technical College where he was an admissions officer.

Sylvester A. Wright '55, August 8, Savannah, Ga. After service with the U.S. Air Force, he began his coaching career in Woodruff, S.C. In 1956 he became head basketball coach at Savannah (Ga.) High School, where he was twice named the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association Coach of the Year. He became a partner in the Parker/Wright men's clothing store in 1972. He was executive director of the Victor B. Jenkins Memorial Boys Club for 22 years and at the time of his death was president of the board of directors. He received the Liberty Bell Award in 1978. Active with the Savannah Exchange Club Fair Association, he served as president of the Exchange Club in 1973 and was voted Exchange of the Year in 1981. He was a past member of the board of trustees of Savannah Christian Preparatory School and the Savannah Quarterback Club.

Gracelyn Kibler Roberts '56, August 16, Marshall, N.C. She was a pianist and a teacher.

Whiteford Lee Faile, Jr. '57, June 12, Rock Hill, S.C. He was a retired minister, having served Baptist churches in the two Carolinas. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, was a member of Blackstock Masonic Lodge and was a former moderator of the Chester Ministerial Association.

Tommy Gleen Madden '57, June 23, Greenville. He was a retired U.S. Postal Service employee and had served as past president of both the Local 439 of the National

Letter Carriers Branch and of the state association. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran.

Jable Eugene Alley '60, June 6, Greenville. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was an accountant and bookkeeper with Claussen's Bakery.

Chris R. Langston '61, May 2, Darlington, S.C. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and had been an elementary school crossing guard for many years.

James F. Neal, Jr. '61, July 6, Greenville. He worked in graphic design and was the recipient of numerous awards, including seven Addys and one Cleo. He was retired from Dunlop Sports.

R. John Furey '62, June 25, Spartanburg, S.C. He was a deputy in the Buncombe County (N.C.) Sheriff's Department and worked with his father in the family automotive radiator repair business. He retired after 19 years as human resources manager with Standard Products Company and Cooper-Standard Automotive.

Andrew B. Rasor '62, July 22, Simpsonville, S.C. He served as administrative vice president with J.D. Hollingsworth on Wheels Inc., working for the company for more than 43 years. He also served as secretary and treasurer of Hollingsworth Funds, Inc., and was an officer of Verdade Properties, Buckfield Plantation, HSL and Michigan Agri-Chemical.

Neetumn G. Bagwell, M.A. '63, July 20, Greenville. He was a teacher and coach in the Greenville County Schools for 31 years. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Ruth Folk Davidson '68 (M.A. '78), May 18, Greer, S.C. She was a high school chemistry teacher in Greenville County and taught some classes at

Furman. She later worked in the family woodworking business and did IT computer work.

Margaret Upchurch Brissey '69, July 7, Greenville. After teaching third grade in Greenville County, she went on to be director of the Upstate division of the March of Dimes and later was associated with American Federal Bank. For 16 years she worked in the St. Francis Hospital system as the physician practice liaison and received the Distinguished Employee of the Year Award in 2003.

Donna Lucille Byrd '69, June 29, Atlanta. She worked for the State of Georgia for 32 years. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was actively involved with the American Diabetes Association.

Susan "Gina" Johnston '69, June 26, Greenville. She began her law career with Haynsworth, Sinclair and Boyd, defending medical malpractice cases. At the time of her death she was a self-employed attorney. She was instrumental in starting the Greenville Free Medical Clinic and served as its director. She received the Disabled South Carolinian of the Year Award and was a past member of the Greenville Hospital System Rehabilitative Task Force, the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities Issues and the YWCA Board of Directors. She served as counsel for the South Carolina Advocacy for the Disabled.

Cheryl Carter New '69, August 8, Spartanburg, S.C. With her husband, she published four books on grants acquisition, a book on negotiation and numerous articles on business topics. Together, they traveled throughout the country presenting programs and workshops on grant writing. At

the time of her death she was president of their company, the Polaris Corporation.

Rodney Earle Tuck '69, July 17, Mount Pleasant, S.C. He was an ordained Southern Baptist minister, a chaplain for the U.S. Air Force and a retiree of the Department of Defense Finance and Accounting Services at the Charleston Naval Base Supply Center.

Linda Lee Hunt McNaughton '71, July 25, Tallahassee, Fla. She lived in Stoke-on-Trent, England, for 16 years and held a master's degree in art education from the University of Georgia.

Mary Sims Wirsing '71, June 10, Manassas, Va.

Leigh R. Dotson, M.B.A. '76, July 24, Billings, Mont. He had been an auditor for Daniel Construction Company in Greenville before returning to Montana to work for the Montana Power Company and MT States Petroleum. He became a Certified Public Accountant in 1979 and started his own business. He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Accountants and the Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants.

William George Emery '85, June 27, Aiken, S.C. He was employed with Hubbell Power Systems/Ohio Brass of Aiken.

Steve N. Metz '03, July 25, Orleans, Mass. He was a nationally ranked tennis player and worked as an assistant tennis pro at Willy's Gym in Eastham, Mass.

Ruth Littlejohn Burts, July 28, Charlotte, N.C. Wife of the late Charles Burts, longtime psychology professor at Furman, she was a caseworker with the Family Court in Greenville and also a pioneer in the field of family planning. A psychology scholarship at Furman is named in her honor.

Cultural exchange

Rotary-sponsored trip to Brazil has decidedly Furman flair

They came together as part of a Rotary International Group Study Exchange program, chosen through a competitive application process to take part in a five-week cultural and vocational trip to Brazil.

The group consisted of five Greenville area residents — four young professionals, none of them a Rotary Club member, and their team leader, a respected Rotarian.

Before their first meeting, the participants knew that they shared an interest in travel and in learning about different ways of life. What they did not know until that initial gathering was that all but one of them had something else in common: They were Furman graduates.

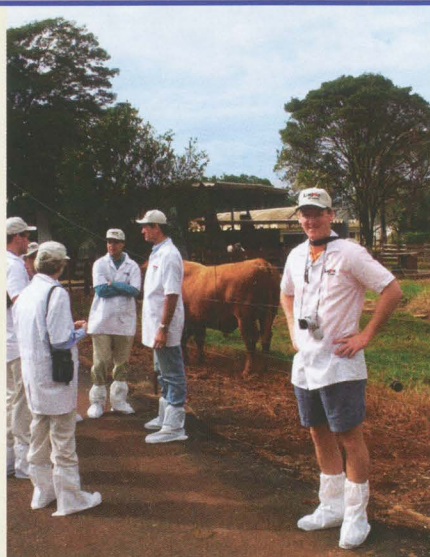
"Being a Furman alum wasn't among the criteria for selection," says team leader Rebecca Clay Faulkner '69, an education professor at the University of South Carolina Upstate. "But maybe it really wasn't such a coincidence."

The selection committee was, after all, looking for top talent, so the Furman pedigree likely came into play for Kirby Mitchell '96, managing attorney for the South Carolina Centers for Equal Justice; Chu Yon (Pak) Smith '01, a market resource consultant with Right Management Consultants; and Mark Davis '00, a businessman and farmer. Davis actually wasn't among the original applicants but was invited to interview and then to join the others after two alternates were unable to participate.

"It probably didn't hurt that I speak Spanish and Portuguese," says Davis, a Francis M. Hipp intern to Rio de Janeiro during his student days.

The Furman connection extended even to the alternate team leader, Bert Strange '68, who took part in the pre-trip preparation in case Faulkner was unable to go. And according to the Furman folks, the "outsider" in the group — Kathleen King, an accountant and controller — fit in perfectly and proved worthy enough to be named an honorary Furman graduate by her travel mates.

Before their departure in mid-May, the quintet spent months in team-building exercises and cultural discussions while also studying Portuguese with Furman professor Christina Buckley and three Brazilian exchange students. After arriving in Sao Paolo, they embarked



During a tour of Lagoa da Serra, a leader in bovine genetics and semen production, Kirby Mitchell models the booties the travelers wore to avoid picking up unwanted souvenirs; the group visits an Embraer aircraft manufacturing plant in Gavião Peixoto. From left: Mark Davis, Kathleen King, Mitchell, Chu Yon Smith and Becky Faulkner.

upon a five-week odyssey to assorted cities, where they lived with local families, met dignitaries, spoke to Rotary clubs and learned how their professions are practiced abroad. In the process they toured everything from tanneries and chicken hatcheries to automotive research parks and aeronautic centers.

Brazilians are known for their hospitality, as the GSE members readily attest, and the graciousness of their hosts added much to the visitors' understanding of native lifestyles and culture. Their accommodations ranged from spacious homes to one-bedroom apartments, but wherever they stayed they found acceptance and warmth.

"We felt a real connection with all of our host families," says Smith. "They wanted us to be a part of their lives. We were treated like royalty, and living in their homes added another dimension to our trip."

Their hosts' desire to please was evident as well in the group's intense daily schedules, during which they were afforded an in-depth, often behind-the-scenes look into Brazilian business and cultural practices.

For example, lawyers are held in high regard in Brazil, so in most towns Mitchell was granted permission to tour the local jails, despite their somewhat notorious reputations. He attended trials, met judges and was invited to speak at a law school — with the help of a translator who introduced him as "one of the best 35 lawyers in the United States." (He had actually been named one of Greenville's "Best and Brightest Under 35" by *Greenville* magazine, but as Mitchell jokes, "She wasn't that far off.")



COURTESY CHU YON SMITH (2)

Faulkner reveled in the opportunity to be an observer in schools and other educational facilities. "Not a day goes by that I don't mention something about Brazil in my classes," she says. Through visits to companies and ad agencies, Smith was able to examine firsthand the differences in marketing practices between the United States and Brazil, and Davis was so impressed by Brazilian business and technological practices that he decided to change jobs upon his return home. He now works for Synnex, a global information technology company.

The travelers were also required to make formal presentations to Brazilian Rotary clubs. They delighted their hosts at these gatherings by delivering their talks in Portuguese; indeed, after one event they were told they were the first GSE team to speak in Portuguese in 30 years.

Since their return to Greenville, they've been spreading the word about their experience to area Rotary clubs.

"Rotary truly opens doors, and I think it's really up to those of us who benefit from this program to share our stories," says Davis. Faulkner adds, "Next to the U.S. government, Rotary is the second largest distributor of scholarships of any organization in the world. It really is designed to build goodwill and understanding, and it exemplifies that ideal."

— Jim Stewart

To learn more about the program, visit www.rotary.org/foundation/educational and click on the Group Study Exchange link, or e-mail Ken Tucker, Greenville district Rotary GSE chair, at ktucker25@juno.com.

Olympic moments

Why would an American elementary physical education teacher want to spend her summer in Greece? For me, it wasn't because of my Greek heritage. (I don't have any.) Nor was it because of a desire to vacation in the Greek Isles or to find peace and quiet in another corner of the world.

No, there was only one reason: to be on the greatest team in the world — the Olympic Volunteer Team — helping to make the 2004 Olympic Games the best!

Volunteering at this year's Games was the ultimate experience, and even though at first everything was Greek to me, each day provided opportunities to meet other "Olympic nuts."

I had worked at the Olympics before, as a support volunteer for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies in Atlanta in 1996. But why go all the way to Greece, especially after hearing that construction was

behind schedule and that things might not be ready when the Games were supposed to start?

It's simple: Greece is the birthplace of the Olympics. For years I had taught a unit on the Olympics. My students and I would talk about ancient Olympia, where the Games started, and I would show them pictures of the sites. I'd also organized Olympic field days for my classes. When Greece got the bid to host the Games, I knew I wanted to go and experience all the things I'd talked about through the years. The urge was too strong to ignore.

After months of applying, interviewing and searching for housing, my official acceptance to be a volunteer on a ceremonies team arrived in late April. Two months later, my family and I boarded a flight for our first trip to Europe. We arrived in Athens on June 30, and for nine days my husband Ed '78, daughter Erin '04 and son Austin ('11?) and I traveled around Santorini, Corinth, Marathon, Athens and, of course, Olympia.

As I stood on the hill at the original stadium site in Olympia, tears streamed down my face. I could

hardly believe I was there, on the same ground where ancient Olympians once competed. At that moment, with the Olympic spirit swelling within me, I'm sure that the ancient gods made me an honorary Greek citizen.

My family had to return to the States after our tour, but by then Greece was beginning to feel like home. It was time to get to work.

My first assignment in Athens was in radio communications, helping to prepare for the Opening Ceremonies. While this was very interesting, I wanted to be closer to the action. I was granted permission to join the stadium operations team, where we did a little of everything. We posted signs in the stadium, prepared the staging rooms for the cast and even assembled a refrigerator. During the Opening Ceremonies August 13 and the Closing Ceremonies August 29, my post was in the tunnel through which the main performers entered.

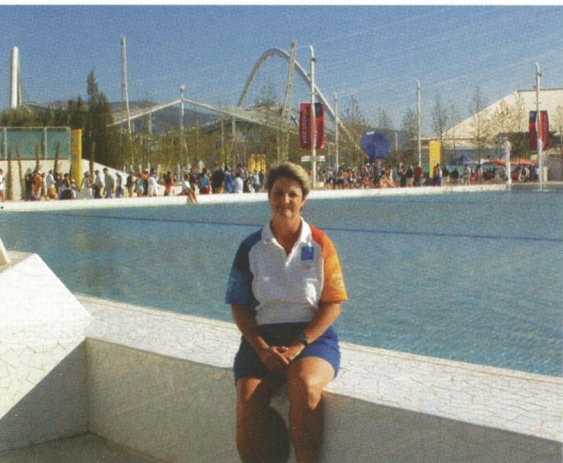
Between the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, I requested more volunteer work and was assigned to the tennis venue, which was perfect for me since I play and coach the sport. I was stationed in the players' lounge, where we posted results, made sure the athletes were comfortable and assisted them when they had questions. We weren't allowed to take pictures or ask for autographs, but still, when else would I be able to hang with Andy Roddick?

After the Closing Ceremonies, I came home with a wonderful feeling of accomplishment. I had spent two months in an international setting with thousands of people working for a common cause. The Olympic staff and volunteers proved to the skeptics that the Athens Games could be a success. When the flame was extinguished, we had the satisfaction of knowing we had contributed to a job well done.

I returned to my students at Crestview Elementary in Greenville with my souvenir uniform proudly tucked under my arm, memories sculpted in my mind and the Olympic flame burning in my heart. I've been able to share with them firsthand how the Olympics bring together people from all over the world. I've told them about the joy of volunteering and the value of learning another language, of understanding other countries and customs.

While my life may seem to be back to normal now, part of my heart is still in Greece. One day I will return — and relive those days when I was a part of Olympic history.

— Tricia Toole Boehmke '78





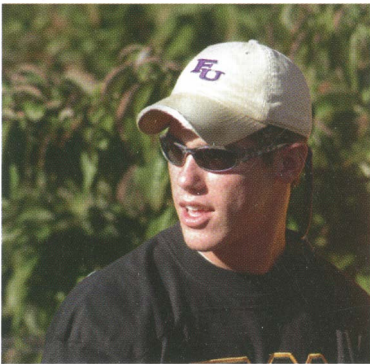
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